

B.A.R.

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IN THE BAY AREA
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BAY AREA REPORTER

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NEXT DEADLINE: APRIL 8, 1977

THE LARGEST CIRCULATION AND READERSHIP IN THE BAY AREA

San Jose - Vice Arrests Up 500%



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1st Victim of Bryant Crusade

MIAMI, FLA. - A report from the Dade County Coalition for the Humanistic Rights of Gays announced the death of a Cuban-born Gay activist: Ovidio Ramos. Born Jan. 7, 1949, in Havana, Cuba. Died March 16, 1977, in Miami, Florida. Age: 28 years. Cause of death: Suicide.

Ovidio's last communication was a cry of anguish over his family's lack of acceptance of his lifestyle, and their unfavorable comparison to his married brother who has two children. Ovidio is described by his friends at the Metropolitan Community Church of Miami, a homosexual fellowship, and his neighbors as a

"quiet, artistic man who lived only for his music." He was a serious and talented pianist. We last heard Ovidio's voice on a local Spanish radio station, WQBA, two nights before his death.

Our fellow member and friend, Manuel Gomez, who helped Ovidio organize the Latin Committee of the Dade County Coalition for the Humanistic Rights of Gays, was on WQBA with Ovidio. Manuel discussed his own dismissal from Cosmopolitan Magazine for collecting signatures supporting the new Metro Ordinance banning discrimination of homosexuals in jobs and housing. This firing took place despite the fact that the Ordinance is now law in Dade County. At the end of the WQBA program, Ovidio was very depressed, says Manuel, and about the vicious com-

mentaries expressed by some of the callers. "It is incredible," said Ovidio, "that Christian people can hold such unjustified hatred toward us."

Ovidio Ramos. Born Jan. 7, 1949, Havana, Cuba. Age: 28 years. Died: March 16, 1977. Cause of death: Murder by public and private villification and harassment.



A gay new item

Police Harassment Jumps 500 % In San Jose

BY ART JAMES

According to recent statistics provided by the San Jose Police Department, arrests under penal code 647(a) have increased dramatically since the first of the year. In January of this year, 38 people were arrested on this charge, compared to 7 during the month of January 1976. The figures for February of this year are being tallied and will be available in a few days. We have reason to believe that the February total will be similar to that of January.

To put this matter in perspective, I would point out that the total number people arrested during the entire year of 1976 in this general category was 141. It appears that a directed campaign is underway in this city to harass, entrap, and intimidate members of the Bi/Gay community. The official... "reason" ... given to justify this assault on our civil rights is that there have been "citizen complaints of homosexual activity" in the downtown 4th and St. James area.

I would like to know how many "citizen complaints" there have been in relation to the total number of people that are being arrested and harassed. I would also like to know what "homosexual activity" so-called could justify a police action of this sort. I wonder if the Vice Squad would be just as enthusiastic in the entrapment/harassment of 'straights' if there were "citizen complaints" of heterosexual activity in a certain area. I think we already know the answer to that question.

The Gay community in San Jose is responding to this wanton brutalization of our rights in several ways. A "police watch" has been established to monitor the number of arrests made under this charge (Solicitation for a Lewd Sex Act); past court records are being researched to document the pattern of this harassment; and a study is underway to consider the various options for filing a formal protest with the appropriate city, state and federal agencies. If you have been a victim of this mass round-up, we would like to hear from you. Contact Dan Relic of LAMBDA ASS'N at (408) 264-1880.

Eye-Witness Alert:

SAN RAFAEL POLICE
ENTRAPMENT

As a warning to the Marin County Gay community, a creditable source has informed the B.A.R.:

Two undercover cops -

both young, one with moustache and short hair, the other slightly larger and with longer hair and wearing a leather hat. Both wear brown corduroy pants and blue nylon jackets. Drive around in a two-door light blue Ford Falcon (Lic. # 117 RAH). Very active in the Albert Park area near the tennis courts.

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Editorial

Police Entrapment in San Jose

To our Gay brothers outside the city limits:

This past year word has repeatedly filtered through that all has not been well in Santa Clara County. We urged our informants to speak out, but nobody seemed to want to or be able to come up with the facts. So too, there was that inbred fear of too violently rocking the boat.

Finally, one man, Art James of San Jose, chose to fight for his rights. He was sufficiently outraged over his classic vice squad entrapment: the decoy

singling out the victim, then presenting himself in a provocative, available manner (a tape recorder hidden in his pocket) bumping his knee into the victim's. Asking leading questions; denying he was a police officer. And after 45 minutes of toying, flashing his badge. Subsequently apologizing because he was only doing his job.

Art James decided not only to bring his case before a jury but champion the cause of every other Gay who has been arrested and advised to "cop a plea." To suffer the mere consequences of being a registered SEX OFFENDER for the rest of his life.

Art has unearthed startling statistics - an almost rampage of arrests up from 1976 by 500%. Vice hasn't run amuck in San Jose, but police zealotry seems to know no limits. He's learned that the undercover agent's tape recorder has already curiously malfunctioned - at crucial points in the conversation. (It seems San Jose P.D. is taking lessons from Richard Nixon.)

* * *

A male sexual decoy - enticing a man into a "criminal" posture - is a pervert in the truest sense of the word. An undercover agent standing at a urinal with half an erection, fondling himself, is the scum of scums. And if the San Jose police, officials and public don't know this - it's time they did.

We urge our Gay brothers in Santa Clara, Marin and San Mateo Counties first to be more cautious and second, to rally round men like Art James. There is little glory in store for these gutsy men, but the real possibility of justice for himself and those who will meet a similar fate.

The San Jose Vice crowd will never stop their harassment and traps until their twisted application of what THEY choose to be the law is brought before judges and juries. And the public.

The District Attorney's Office has already offered Art James attractive bargains, to wriggle themselves and the entire corrupt system off the hook.

The slight gains made in San Francisco over the years have come only through the repeated courage of those who have experienced the oppression. At the B.A.R. we feel it is now San Jose's time to occasion its very own Stonewall. And we predict things will never be the same.

P. Lorch

These claims were submitted by Molinari on March 15, based on a Jan. 6 analysis of the proposed ordinance in B.A.R.

O'Connor verified that under the ordinance as written: "mom-and-pop" stores which devote 5% of their shelf space to "Playboy," "Playgirl" and similar periodicals would be classified as "adult bookstores;" that they would have to re-locate in order to conform to the "1000-ft. rule" (stating that all adult bookstores and theaters must be at least 1000 feet away from residential areas); and that they would not be allowed to display "any stock in trade," including food, sundries and other non-pornographic items, where they may be viewed by the public from the street.

Acting on the City Attorney's findings, Molinari proposed an amendment to part of the Feinstein ordinance: Section 791.12, which states that no adult bookstore may display "any stock in trade" where it may be viewed from public streets.

Molinari's amendment would change that to "any stock in trade" which is defined as pornographic under the ordinance.

Aides to Supervisor Feinstein say that the ordinance is presently being re-written to conform to recommendations made by the SF Planning Commission earlier this month, and may be presented at the Board's Planning Committee meeting in April.

Porno Ordinance Faulted

... BY CITY ATTORNEY

by Mark Joplin

In a March 21 opinion, City Attorney Thomas O'Connor verified claims made by Supervisor John Molinari regarding several aspects of Supervisor Dianne Feinstein's controversial "Porno Zoning Ordinance."

Gayness goes beyond sex, and may not include it at all. Each is Gay in their own way - it is a perspective, a flowering.

- Mitch Walker,
"Men Loving Men"

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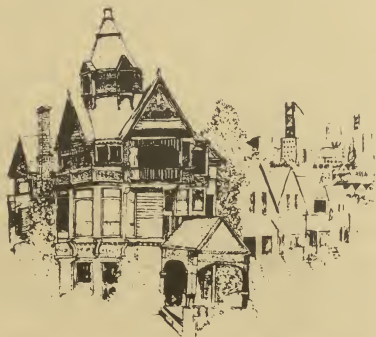
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White House Opens Doors -

GAYS MAKE DEMANDS

by George Mendenhall

Ten Gay people from across the country met on March 26 with President Jimmy Carter's assistant public liaison,

Margaret (Midge) Costanza. The three-hour session was reported on all major television and radio networks and in releases from the Associated and United Press Services.

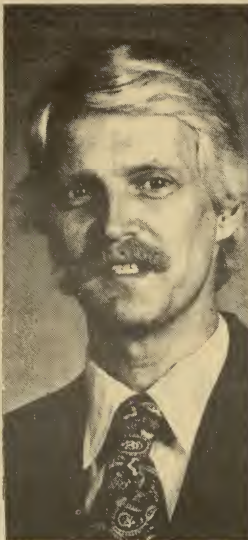
"This is the first time in the history of this country that a President has seen fit to acknowledge the rights and needs of some 28 million Americans," Jean O'Leary, co-chair of

the National Gay Task Force, told the press. She said that the ten who met with Costanza were "highly optimistic" that the meeting would soon lead to complete fulfillment of Carter's pledge to Gay people.

In campaign statements in his race for the presidency, Carter had said, "I oppose discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. As President, I can assure you that all policies of the Federal Government would reflect this commitment... I certainly will sign Congresswoman Bella Abzug's bill (which would have added 'sexual preference' to the Civil Rights Act of 1964) because I don't think it's right to single out homosexuals for special abuse or harassment."

Those meeting with Costanza told her (and, indirectly, Carter) that they wanted the right to serve in the military and to receive honorable discharges plus more homosexuals in the State Department, FBI and CIA.

They asked for tax-free status for Gay groups and additional rights for Gay prisoners - the privilege of receiving Gay publications, increased recreational opportunities and freedom from abuse and assault. Federal grants for homosexual social and research programs were demanded along with an expansion of the Federal Communications Commission rules to require broadcast access for the homosexual community. Employment and housing,



NGTF co-executive director

Dr. Bruce Voeller

rights were discussed along with the ban on granting United States citizenship to homosexual immigrants.

George Raya, former Sacramento lobbyist for pro-Gay legislation, was one of the NGTF choices to attend the capital meeting. Raya is presently on the staff of District Attorney Joseph Freitas.

A full report on the White House meeting will be given to the Gay community on Monday, April 11, at 7:30 at Trin-

ity Place. This is a free, public meeting - the monthly business gathering of the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club.

Raya was joined in the capital by Charles Brydon, president of the Dorian Society in Seattle; Charlotte Bunch, editor of the feminist quarterly, QUEST; Ray Hartman, Los Angeles attorney; Frank Kameny, long-time Washington, D.C., counselor in Gay legal matters; William Kelley, former editor of CHICAGO GAY CRUSADER and former chair of Chicago Gay Activist Alliance; Elaine Noble, state legislator in Massachusetts; Jean O'Leary, New York activist who was instrumental in setting up the White House arrangements; Troy Perry, founder and moderator of Metropolitan Community Church; Betty Powell, instructor in education at Brooklyn College; Myra Riddell, Los Angeles psychiatric therapist; Charlotte Spitzer, president of Parents & Friends of Gays in Los Angeles; and Bruce Voeller, who co-chairs the National Gay Task Force with O'Leary.

Marilyn Haft, a Costanza aide, told the press, "The point is they are being discriminated against; the point is not their sexual views."

Jody Powell, press secretary to Carter, explained to CBS News, "They feel they are discriminated against, harassed, because of their sexual preference. They feel this is unfair... I think that when an organized group of people feel that they have a grievance, that part of this whole business about what sort of country we live in is for them to have a right to put that grievance before the officials of this land and to say, 'We want redress.' That is the essence of what America is all about. How I feel about Gay rights or any other rights doesn't have anything to do with it. It is a question of their right to say, 'Look, we are not getting a fair shake and this is what ought to be done.'"

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Lesbian Student Elected

CLARK U

Cynthia Adams, co-director of Clark University's Gay Center, won election to the student council on this Worcester, Mass., campus.

Adams has been outspoken in her support for the political equality of all campus groups. She was well known for her Lesbian activism.

When asked her first order of business, she answered, "I would like to see Clark U. take a strong stand in regard to human rights and stop the sale of Florida citrus products on campus. Anita Bryant is becoming a life and death issue, and it's our lives at stake and the quality of our lifestyle."

Tavern Guild Gives Large Sum to Miami Coalition

The San Francisco Tavern Guild at its March 29 meeting donated \$500 to the Dade County Coalition for Humanistic Rights of Gays.

In a motion by Vice President Wayne Friday, the officers and members voted to contribute to the Miami Gay community's battle against Anita Bryant's "Save Our Children" crusade.

After the vote, the hat was passed and another \$260 was raised - bringing the total to \$760. A check was immediately forwarded to the DCCHRG, P.O. Box 414, Miami, Fla. 33133 c/o Bob Stickney.

To defeat the June 6 referendum to deny Gay rights, the Miami coalition is trying to raise \$400,000.

Prostitution To Be Decriminalized?

by Mark Joplin

Winging its way to the State & National Affairs Committee next month is a proposal by Supervisor Terry Francois that would remove the social stigma which hangs over San Francisco's oldest profession: prostitution.

Introducing the matter before the Board last Monday, Francois called for the State Legislature to "enact legislation which would decriminalize private acts of prostitution between consenting adults, with appropriate conditions and proscriptions."

These "conditions and proscriptions" would result in the total prohibition of street prostitution and public soliciting, while relaxing the taboos on privately-run prostitution establishments, such as massage parlors.

Such establishments, however, would only be able to operate with the written permission of the establishment's owner, and the male or female prostitutes would have to submit to "periodic health examinations" - a measure designed, according to Francois, to keep the VD rate down.

Pimping would still remain a felony offense, and sex establishments would be limited "to zones designated by local govern-

ments." This, however, would not amount to the establishment of a new "red-light district," Francois emphasized.

The proposal would also call for additional conditions which would protect minors and curtail public annoyance and consumer fraud.

Fed. Aid For Survival House

SACRAMENTO - Assemblyman Art Agnos announced that he and F. E. Mitchell of the Golden Gate Gay Survival House have been successful in winning approval of a proposal to place VISTA volunteers in the Survival House to find jobs for unemployed people.

Agnos said, "The approval is a 'first' for this federal agency and we had to overcome major obstacles to win this fight." In January Agnos became involved after the proposal had been rejected and community leaders sought his assistance.

Assemblyman Agnos stated that the resistance to the proposal was primarily based on "bias against Gay persons and a belief held by Action officials that the Gay community is wealthy when compared to other disadvantaged groups."

"When F. E. Mitchell and I met with federal administrators, it became apparent that this proposal was not being evaluated on its merits but colored with prejudice and misinformation."

After several weeks of heated negotiations between Agnos and Action Region IX, the administrators agreed to submit their "specific objections" to the Survival House proposal in writing.

Under the plan worked out with Agnos, F. E. Mitchell, Director of the Survival House, would be given the opportunity to work with Action staff on resolving these specific objections and before funding approval deadlines passed.

Agnos and Mitchell then called upon Senator Alan Cranston for additional assistance.

Agnos concluded, "The real reason we were successful was the quality of the program at the Survival House. F. E. Mitchell, his staff and Board of Directors had put together an excellent proposal and pursued each objection raised until it was resolved."

"This approval by Action marks the first time that any federal poverty program has recognized the needs of the Gay community."

Transsexual Bill Update

AB 385 wherein transsexuals could receive new and "corrected" birth certificates (new gender designations to reflect sex change operations) was approved by the Assembly Ways and Means Committee. The vote was 12 to 3 in favor (one more than needed).

The bill sponsored by Willie Brown (D - SF) and backed by Art Agnos (D - SF) now goes to the Assembly floor.

While AB 385 has the backing of the Brown administration and Bay Area legislators, transsexuals and their friends are urged to contact members of the Assembly.

Under AB 385, a transsexual would apply for a birth certificate change to the State Department of Health. A letter from a surgeon attesting to the sex change would accompany the application. Local birth records would automatically be brought into conformity. For a fee of \$5.00 a new certificate would be put on file, indistinguishable from the original. Thirty other states now allow transsexuals to change their birth certificates to reflect new gender.

Christopher St. Demo Club Boycott

SAN JOSE - Following the lead of the S.F. Gay community, Christopher Street Democratic Club has formally sponsored the boycott of Florida citrus products in the South Bay area. This boycott is in response to the virulent comments made by homophobe Anita Bryant in a series of recent interviews. In these interviews she stated that homosexuals are recruiting children because they cannot reproduce for themselves. In an interview on the program "Good Morning, America" she said some Gay male teachers will want to wear dresses to work and flaunt their homosexuality in front of her children.



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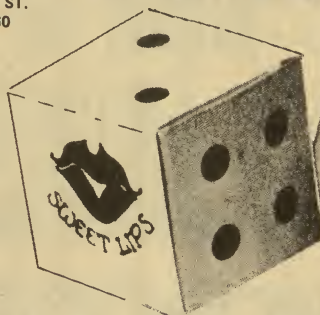
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Milk Forum

Pools Within Pools

by Harvey Milk

Anita Bryant has already done harm to untold thousands and she is not finished yet! The list of harm that she has already caused is long. And now, she objects, not just to Gay teaching, but to Gays meeting at the White House. And we still have those among us who are her apologists.

Anita Bryant is testing her powers. As she gains support (and she is) she takes stronger and stronger anti-Gay stands. Reminds me of how Hitler rose to power by using the Jews as bait. I don't see Bryant becoming another Hitler, but the tactic is similar. Hitler even had many Jews on his side at first, defending his "rights."

Anita Bryant should lose her job. And those among us who feel differently should explain their position to the young who are finding out their own sexuality and Gayness, who want to be proud and

free and not ashamed and closeted. I wonder if those who feel that Anita Bryant has the "right" to preach hatred and bigotry will still defend her when she steps up her demands against Gay people. Are those who think so highly of her "rights" willing to sacrifice the rights of thousands of Gay people? Do they want to be "accepted" so badly that they will crawl to our enemy on their knees?

The world has too many people who spread their hatred from behind the Bible; and, unfortunately, there are too many people willing to defend a person's "rights" to spread hatred. I don't. It's fresh California and Texas oranges from here on out until Anita is out.

BERT PINES

A difference in attitudes was shown at a recent dinner for Bert Pines (City Attorney from L.A.)

who's up for re-election next week. Speaking to what could be regarded as a "monied" audience, people from the Peninsula and Marin, Pines talked about his accomplishments as City Attorney, prove the conditions of nursing homes, his help for the Spanish-speaking population, his help for the environment and for Gay people in L.A. Looking at the audience and listening to his talk, one might have at first thought it was the wrong speech to the wrong audience. But, no - this was Bert Pines. He is proud of what he has done. The reaction was great. His attitude towards all minorities is the opposite of Anita Bryant's.

Bert Pines is considering a run for state office next year - Attorney General. I suggest that Gay people from the Bay Area send him letters and wires urging him to run (c/o the City Attorney's Office, L.A.). Of all the people mentioned so far who may make that race, Bert Pines is head and shoulders above them in the area of civil liberties. His record - not speeches - is there to back him up.

TAXI DRIVER

Once again (for the third year in a row) our

Board of Supervisors has passed a taxi fare increase. The sad thing is not whether one was needed, but that not once in three years has any of our "fiscally responsive" supervisors asked for a complete examination of the books of the cab companies. The Board just accepted the word of the cab companies. No other regulatory authority would do that. They not only demand the books but have their own people do a complete examination. But S.F. is different. Oh, they asked their own budget analyst to go over what few bits of accounting were submitted. But no audit. No demand that the companies submit their records. Only those that did bother to submit anything were looked over. It is a mockery. There are no standards. No accountability. In fact, at the hearing, the supervisors who have heard the cab companies argue their case for three years still admit that they do not understand how the different cab companies operate - and they granted the increase without any proof of need. I guess they don't care about anything. Look at what they are about to give the people who live in the upper Market St. area: a nice six-lane freeway.

money spent restoring the pool will probably be less than the costs of treating some of these youths in the criminal justice system.

The pool uses salt water, important in this water-short city. But, our mayor and his parks commission have another idea for the pool. They want to fill it in and use it for a parking lot for the zoo! And so, once again, the auto may win out. Some day when there is not enough gas for cars and that huge parking lot is empty, someone might ask, "Why did they fill this in in the first place?" And someone else might ask, "What was here before?" A great pool that a lot of the youth of the city used. Fleishhacker Pool is more than a pool. It is symbolic of attitudes - symbolic of the ongoing battle between people and machines.

MIAMI ORANGE PARTY

I ended this article talking about a pool and started it talking about the statements of Anita Bryant that belong in a cesspool. History has shown, time and time again, that the most effective thing that people can do - short of violence - to stop an outrage is an economic boycott. It works. For the sake of Gay people who are "coming out" and have difficulties handling it, I feel that we must get rid of the Anita Bryants. The only power we have is economic. I urge all to join the boycott of all Florida orange juice. It is a small price to pay for freedom. Two hundred years ago a group dumped some tea into Boston Harbor. A nation won its freedom. It is time for us to dump Florida orange juice. Maybe we will find our freedom coming a lot faster.

FLEISHHACKER POOL

These same supervisors seem to want to do something about crime. Well, let them spend some money to reopen Fleishhacker Pool. It will cost, but it will once again give our young some place to go and get rid of their energy. Playland is closed. Fleishhacker pool is closed. There is no alternative.

One of the reasons for youth getting into trouble is the need to "do something." When all the alternatives are taken away, some drift into crime for "kicks." The

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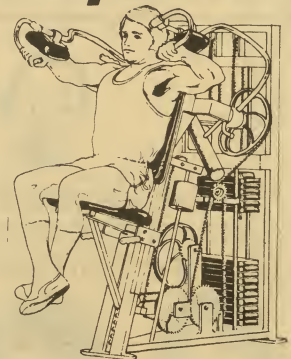
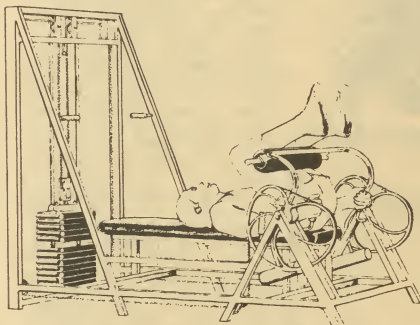
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Behind the Headlines

Anita On The Stump

by George Mendenhall

Entertainer Anita Bryant's "Save Our Children from Homosexuality, Inc." is receiving one thousand letters a day at its Miami postal box. Enclosed, it is believed, are thousands of dollars from fundamentalist Christians who fear

that children are somehow threatened by proselytizing Gay people. The funds will be primarily used to convince the Dade County populace (Miami, Miami Beach) that homosexuals can be discriminated against in housing, em-

ployment and public accommodations. The vote will be on June 7. "I am just a concerned mother with four children," states Bryant when she appears on TV talk shows to plead for support and to give her reasons for opposing the Dade County Civil Rights measure. In reality, Bryant, a wealthy Florida resident (estimated annual income: \$500,000), hucksters products for several firms on television and is a Public Relations front person for the Florida Citrus Commission, a state agency. Her husband, Bob Green, is also her manager and campaigns with Bryant. Some confusion arises when an attempt is made to analyze what Bryant is saying about homosexuality. She says, "I am not saying that they are not nice guys. I know a lot of homosexuals who are nice. I feel no animosity, no hatred, no anger. I am really beginning to have a love for homosexuals. . . . No one wants to discriminate, least of all I." She also says, "They are forcing, haunting and proselytizing on people who believe that it is immoral. . . . I pray for them. God says, in His word, that He hates the sin but He loves the sinner." She states that the Bible is a literal document, not subject to interpretation - so homosexuality is an "abomination."

The United States will be destroyed by God "just as He destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah," according to Bryant if homosexuality is accepted as an alternative lifestyle. The fear is that children will be exposed to upfront Gay teachers, acceptable as role models, thus making it clear to children that there is nothing intrinsically wrong with being homosexual. Bryant stresses, "Such an alternative lifestyle is not conducive to a healthy, wholesome atmosphere. We don't want an alterna-

tion to marriage presented to our children." The entertainer-huckster is convinced that homosexuals molest children. She refers to a publication that the Coral Gables, Florida, Police Department discovered which allegedly tells homosexual adults where they might find children on the beaches. She also vaguely states that Gay people attempt to "recruit" children because it

is the only way they have of perpetuating their own lifestyle, since "they can't have children themselves."

Bryant is well informed on the Gay movement, referring to the federally financed Gay Community Services Center in Los Angeles, the national bill to add Gay people to the protective guidelines of the Civil Rights Act, Gay publications and organizations. This means that "they are coming out of the closet. They now admit it and they say they are proud. They are even meeting at the White House. These laws (equal rights for Gay people) are making it more enticing for them to come out."

Closeted Gay people present no serious problem to Bryant because, as they stay hidden, no one knows they are around; and if they do not recruit children, they can live on this earth like anyone else. However, they are still sinners and "should accept Christ as their personal Savior and deliver themselves from this. There is hope. They are unhappy, miserable people with a lifestyle that no parent would choose for their children."

In a recent interview on the Phil Donahue television show, nationally syndicated from Chicago and seen locally on KTVU, Channel 2, Bryant alternated between a limited tolerance for homosexuals and a plea that they be saved from their sinfulness. She pleaded that she had been maligned by the Gay community in its attempt to deny her employment and asked her detractors to stay on the issues. Bryant said that the Dade County Coalition, the major Gay group that is collecting funds for the local battle, is not part of the campaign to deny her employment. Her husband said the American Civil Liberties Union had informed him that it supports the pro-Gay legislation but that it also was opposed to the national Florida citrus boycott.

Phil Donahue took a liberal, civil liberties stand in supporting legal equality for Gay people everywhere. He said, "This ordinance does not allow a homosexual to get up in front of a third-grade class and say, 'I am a homosexual and it is really neat. You ought to try it,' any more than heterosexuals are allowed to do such a thing now. . . . I would oppose heterosexuals and homosexuals from discussing their sexual preference in the classroom. Are you saying that just because a homosexual is known and is a nice guy that this will enhance the chances of children to become homosexual?" (The answer was, "Yes.")

"As long as the homosexual is discriminated against," Donahue said, "it is difficult to be a homosexual in this culture. The Gay community has been really crucified over the years. . . . If I was Gay, I would be scared to death. I really would. I would be afraid of losing my job, for one thing. . . ."



Anita Bryant

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They are coming out of the closet and that is okay with me.

"I honestly think that many kids are not too sure what their sex lives are all about. I don't believe that someone just wakes up one morning and says, 'Hey, I am a homosexual.' It is much more complicated than that. . . . The culture says that being Gay is not acceptable so a young person who may want to come to grips with being Gay is faced with a hostile society. Dad is saying, 'Get into Plastics, son' and this boy may marry my daughter in an effort to show the world that he isn't Gay. Three years later, with one or two kids of their own, there is a very painful tragic realization of the situation. I don't want that kid to be obliged to 'play straight.' I don't want that kid to feel closeted."

Donahue asked Anita Bryant what she would do if she discovered that her son was a homosexual. She replied, "First of all, God has a standard, a judgment. I would tell him that God loves him and that I love him, no matter what. I would not disown him. I would also help him to repent of his sin."

In order to protect her children from outside influence, Bryant and her husband said that they screen all television programs that their children watch, actually sitting with them to assure that they do not view things that might be harmful. Bryant said, "I feel I have a responsibility to place nutritious food on the table for my children. I wouldn't feed them garbage too because it was an alternative. Husband Bob Green added, "We don't want our children to have any alternatives."

The one-hour Donahue interview included a lively audience question/answer period in which one viewer said that 1,000 homosexuals were at a recent dance in her neighborhood and "I found that to be sickening." Another person took a different stand: "I think that you are discriminating against your children's right, their freedom, their right to decide what atmosphere they want. You were brought up among a lot of permissive people, but it didn't affect your own lifestyle. Weren't you given alternatives when you were young? If you raise your children as Christians and you have a good relationship with them, they will come to you about things."

When pressured, Bryant repeatedly returned to quoting Scripture. While she repeatedly took Scripture out of context, she said to one questioner, "You cannot separate God's love from His righteousness. You cannot take out of context what you want to believe in the Bible; you have to take the whole Bible. Jesus said, 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments.'" Bryant was not asked to explain Biblical passages that call for the stoning of adulterers, the

prohibition of the eating of pork or "Thou shall not kill."

The Donahue audience was almost 100% female and supportive of Bryant. One lone male in the rear of the audience may have made the meaningful statement at the end of the program. "We are trying to mix fiction with fact here," he espoused. . . . "They don't mix at all. We are hearing about what some people believe but the fact is that homosexuals are part of the human race. That is a fact of life. You have to live with that reality."

The significance of the Dade County-Anita Bryant controversy is that it has become a national issue of long-range importance to Gay liberationists. A defeat in Dade County of Gay people could encourage fundamentalists elsewhere to

press for the legal denial of equality for Gay people. . . . Those wishing to contribute to the Dade County Coalition may write to them at: Box 414, Miami, Florida 33133.

Education, which should be helping youth to understand and adapt to their revolutionary new environments, is instead being used merely as an instrument of cultural aggression, imposing upon retribalized youth the obsolescent visual values of the dying literate age.

- Marshall McLuhan



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Politics & People

Ed Davis: The Cop/The Candidate

by Wayne Friday

Although Jerry Brown is still riding the crest of popularity, there are those who believe he could be beaten next year. There are at least three Republicans who would like to take on the Governor. One of them is the current Los Angeles Police Chief.

Ed Davis, at 60, is less than a year from retirement and prefers not to

talk of his candidacy until his retirement. Still, he has been taking speaking engagements all over the state, and there is little doubt that he will jump into the GOP primary against San Diego Mayor Pete Wilson, Attorney General Evelle Younger and other Republicans as well. Davis is the darling of the ultra-right wing of the Republican Party and

of some conservative Democrats as well; he has the aggressive backing of State Senator H. L. Richardson, the conservative from Orange County, and the network of gun owners and other groups who have shelled out hundreds of thousands of dollars for conservative candidates. He also has access to many of the Republican organizations in California that find Evelle Younger too liberal for their tastes.

Davis says he became a Republican in fact, as well as in spirit, because as a landlord he got caught in the rent-control squeeze after World War II and couldn't raise rents to keep pace with rising costs. He blamed the Democrats then in power. Davis next became a Democrat in registration, but never in principle, because his good friend, then-Mayor Sam Yorty, personally asked him to switch parties so the

Chief could vote for Yorty in the 1970 gubernatorial primary. Davis remained a Democrat for more than five years; he changed back to the GOP in 1975 after the then-Democrat National Chairman publicly blamed him, among others, for the failure of L.A. to land the 1976 party convention.

Davis is currently careful not to act too much like an active candidate. However, he is playing

along with Richardson and other right-wingers and doesn't mind being known as their "favorite candidate," all the while disclaiming any candidacy. Richardson already has created a "Committee for a Responsible Governor" and invested enough money to take a poll of conservatives which showed Davis as their

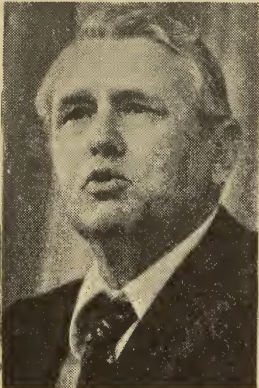
sure your protection from hoodlums, it becomes your responsibility." Speaking recently to the State Republican Convention, Davis made several derogatory remarks about "fruits" and "fairies."

Davis, who is president of the International Ass'n of Chiefs of Police, is so ultra right-wing that he worries even some conservative Republicans. Ronald Reagan is thought to feel that Ed Davis' leading the Republican ticket would damage the entire ticket. Many think the former Governor would step in if the nomination of Ed Davis became a possibility. Turning his wrath recently toward Sacramento, Davis charged that legislation favorable to homosexuals has produced a massive increase in homosexual pornography and that last year's children's rights law has benefitted homosexual adults who prey on youngsters. Because of the children's law, Davis says, authorities are powerless to do anything about "chicken hawks, predatory homosexuals (in Hollywood particularly), who have young boys and, in some cases, procurers who have young girls."

From Gays, the L.A. Chief turns just as easily to his hatred for marijuana. An angry Davis said recently that a proposal to reduce penalties for growing small amounts of marijuana could "make dope addicts out of two-year-old children."

Speaking of a move in the Assembly to eliminate arrests and prison terms for growing six or fewer marijuana plants, Davis described the proposal as the "Willie Brown roll-your-own bill so every hop-head can have a victory garden." If the law passed, the ranting Davis warns, backyard marijuana gardens would be discovered and used by neighborhood boys and girls all over the state. Whenever in front of a crowd of any size, Davis blames the courts, the Legislature, and the Governor for California's rising crime rate. "We're holding the line in Los Angeles (despite) the avalanche of judicial, legislative, and gubernatorial action that always seems to undo everything we're trying to do," he said. "Those people up there in Disneyland North (Sacramento) seem to be participating in a destruction derby in terms of law enforcement." Davis charged that the state Parole Board appointed by Brown has "dumped many dangerous criminals back on the streets" and has made the state the only one in the country to lower its prison population.

Davis' hatred for Gays is well known. Many a Gay in Los Angeles has felt the wrath of Ed Davis' police entrapment; many a Gay bar has known the constant hassle with police; harassment of Gays in Los Angeles has long been commonplace. Ed Davis not only hates Gays, he has a fear of them that is hard to understand. Davis told



L.A. Police Chief, Ed Davis.

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reporters he had no regrets for remarking recently that homosexuals could get together with farm workers and form the "United Fruit Workers of America." "I was relating what a man told me ten years ago about the plans some groups had to take over this state," said Davis. "It really wasn't a joke; it's deadly serious." Ed Davis is a bigot of the worst kind, and his nomination for Governor would be a disaster for the Republican Party - a Party that despite the overwhelming Democrat majority, still managed to carry the State for Gerald Ford and at the same time elected a Republican Senator over a well-entrenched Democrat incumbent.

As a former Republican who believes that this state needs two strong parties, I would hate to see Ed Davis - the living symbol of hatred, bigotry and a police state - become the nominee of the Party which gave us Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, Eisenhower and Jerry Ford. The Republican Party has a chance to defeat Brown next year, but they will never do it with a man like Davis.

POLITICS & POKER...

Georgia State Senator Julian Bond due in town next week ... Barry King will run for Supervisor in District 4 ... The recent CDC Convention passed a resolution calling for a tourist boycott of Nevada for failing to pass the ERA then turned around and conducted a fund-raising raffle - First Prize a trip to Reno or Tahoe ... The feud between Gov. Brown and Moscone continues to simmer ... Supervisor Bob Gonzales fined \$315 and put on year probation after pleading "no contest" to charge of drunk driving ... Voeller and O'Leary of National Gay Task Force sure as hell weren't speaking for me when they apologized to Anita Bryant - Uncle Toms!! ... Barbagelata and his family find the constant attacks on their home no joking matter ... State Treasurer Unruh unhappy in his present job ... both Kopp and Moscone were cheered by crowds at the St. Patrick's Parade ... KGO-TV newsman Peter Cleveland digging into the story behind the sale and fire at Ritch St. Baths ... both staffs surprised at friendship developing between Cranston and Hayakawa ... Joan Hitchcock plans to run again for Supe ... Senator & Mrs. John Foran vacationing in Russia ... Assemblyman Ken Maddy (R - Fresno) says he is interested in running for Governor ... with the new pay raise, Congressmen and Senators are now making \$57,000 - plus all the fringes (and they go on forever) ... Charles McCabe is latest on the growing list of Moscone critics saying, "George has turned out a poor performer as Mayor" ... Anita Bryant attacks White House staff for

meeting with Gay activists. She claims Gays are asking Carter to "bless their abnormal lifestyle." (Explain that one for us, Voeller and O'Leary. Whose side are those "Uncle Tom's" on anyway?) ... Congrats and best wishes to Charles Lee, the bright new owner/publisher of the SENTINEL ... Dianne Feinstein hosting the Kathryn Crosby Show this week. She IS looking for a job, isn't she? ... Art Agnos, fast becoming one of the best friends we have in Sacramento, introduced AB1130 which would ban job discrimination against Gays - a similar bill was defeated by a 2-to-1 margin by the Assembly in 1975 ... Hubert Humphrey told former President Ford recently that Ford would go down in history as a man of "decency, integrity, and a damned good President." (Ford could have used that kind of help during the campaign.) ... If Moscone appoints Gordon Lau to Mendelsohn's soon-to-be-vacant seat, he (Lau) will have to fight Ron Pelosi to keep that seat, as both of them live in District 1...

Wayne Friday

Great Depression Dinner/Dance

The annual Great Depression Dinner and Dance held last weekend at the Gay Center raised \$1,700 for Pride Foundation.

The evening organized by Fern (David Weber of the Cafe Biarritz) and his committee featured a new local tap dancing group, The Castroettes. Their routine brought the audience to its feet - and they weren't satisfied until the all-male chorus was brought back to repeat their number.

The evening's theme was the 1930's; all items on the buffet were 10¢ a serving: chicken drumsticks, apples, baked beans, apple pie. The hall was decked with red, white and blue bunting and old clothes were in abundance (although with the upper Market/Castro crowd hardly a costume change).

The music was all fox trots and one-steps. Gaming tables sprung up, and Michelle presided as MC. A low-keyed evening was thoroughly enjoyed by a high-spirited crowd.

The Gay Center - certainly no Grand Ballroom - was more than adequate - if not a bit appropriate. To contributors, participants, and organizers it was an evening well worth the effort - one we should have more of.

Thanks, Fern!

Gay Named To NYC Human Rights Panel

by Wayne Friday

The appointment of the "first Gay activist" to

serve on the New York City Human Rights Commission was announced March 20 by Mayor Abe Beame. Robert L. Livingston, a former publisher of MORE magazine and a member of the finance committee of the National Gay Task Force, was one of six new appointments to the 15-member commission, which Mayor Beame said "represent the city's unique diversity."

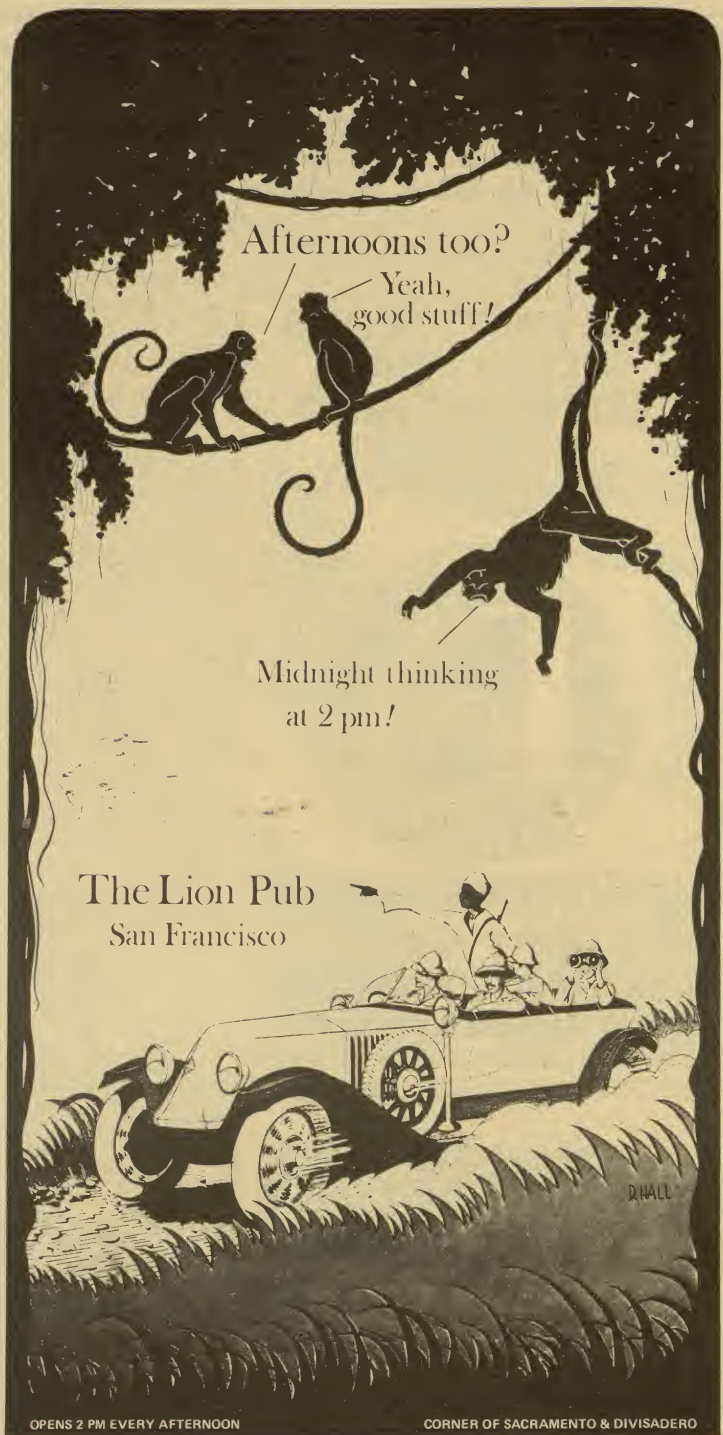
In NYC, the Human Rights Commission has the legal power to prevent discrimination based on race, creed, sex or age in employment and housing. It also investigates "situ-

ations of racial tension." The appointment of an at "at least half a million" Mr. Livingston was major breakthrough by New York Gays, and the Mayor's choice praised by local Gay leaders.

A former theater and television producer, Mr. Livingston said, "I don't want to be known as the Gay member of the commission; I do want to be known as the commissioner who happens to be Gay." Livingston, the son of the famed clothing designer Mollie Parnis, described his appointment as "timely recognition of the large number of homosexuals in New York

City," which he estimated at "at least half a million." Mr. Livingston was appointed to a three-year term. No HRC Commissioner receives a salary, except the chairman; but the commission is one of power and is highly sought after.

Mr. Livingston published MORE magazine until its sale last year. He also directs the city-wide "Dress Up Your Gay" Livingston, the son of the famed clothing designer Mollie Parnis, described his appointment as "timely recognition of the large number of homosexuals in New York





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BLOOD, JUNK & BEERS

Inter-Club Fund has set Friday, April 29, for their annual blood run progressive dinner. For \$3 or a pint of blood, the dinner will start at 6:00 PM with a cocktail at the Round-Up, a salad at the Hombre, soup at Febe's, the main course at the Ambush, dessert at the 527 furnished by the Federal Hotel, and an after-dinner drink and trophies at the Boot Camp. Remember, Friday, April 29. Inter-Club has stated they'd rather have the blood than the money, so if you can't make it out to Irwin Memorial Blood Bank on Masonic near Geary, they have a branch on the 11th floor of the Phelan Bldg. downtown between 3rd & 4th on Market.

With the oncoming deadline for taxes, the CMC stage their annual Tax Break Run on Friday, April 15, for a paltry 99¢ for a drink and five pit stops for this Bingo Game Tax Break Run. Trophies will be presented at the end of the run at the Round-Up around 11:30 PM, for best buddy rider in a car or on a bike. Sign in at Febe's between 7 and 8 PM on April 15; this is one of the cheapest runs you will EVER find. It's lots of fun, believe me.

The CMC will also throw their 1st Annual Junk Fair on Saturday and Sunday, April 23 & 24. Space is available for rent at \$10.00, and the dollar admission fee is good for both days commencing at 1:00 PM on Saturday and 10:00 AM on Sunday and ending at 7:00 PM both days. Sounds like fun. Check it out.

Our neighbors to the south, the Monterey Dons, present their 4th annual

Beer Bash at the Oaks in beautiful Carmel Valley on Saturday, April 30. The \$7.50 donation (\$8.50 at the door) includes bike and non-bike events, impersonate a Monterey Don at His Best Contest, swimming and a show. This always has been a fun event.

CONGRATULATIONS - to the newly-elected officers of the now 10-year-old Barbary Coasters: President John Blythe, Veep Chuck Durham, Secretary Ralph Brown, Treasurer Bill Tucker and Recording Secretary Larry Weaver. With new officers being elected in practically all the clubs, Gaston Baril of the Constantines threw this all-club-officers party the other night, and from a usually reliable source, the goings-on were not to be believed; but I didn't go into de-tale.

Hope you got a chance to see Etta James at the Stud when the faithful flocked to that great bar to listen to Ms. Etta whale the daylights out of her earthy renditions of song and camp. And while speaking of the Stud, one of the nicest bartenders is Larry Holloway; and congratulations to manager Pat Simpson for doing such a great job in just one year, celebrating his first on April 12. Sassy Sharon and the Sweet Chariot group will take the stage this Sunday, April 3, followed by Pegasus on April 4. Go, go, go, Stud!

THE IMPERTINENCE OF BEING TACKY . . . Sweet Lips will be hanging for the seventh year this month. That woman must have a neck of solid steel to survive so many of them; nevertheless,

the festivities start on Sunday evening with a dinner at the Q.T. and include all kinds of shenanigans on the 4th, 5th and 6th. Hanging will be done by Rob and Bill of William Roi Galleries, and the theme of the whole schmear is enjoy, enjoy. Hope to see you at at least one of the functions. Odds are the hanging won't take, but you already knew that, didn't you? . . . Next time you're around Polkstrasse of an early evening, be sure to drop into the Andromeda and listen to the crooning of Glenda Glayzer, a bouncy and lively canary who has the experience of Beach Blanket Babylon, Rocky Horror Show and Boy Meets Boy behind her. You will be delighted by her repertoire . . . Don Rotan of the CMC issues a last call for anyone wishing to join the Queen's Silver Jubilee Run to London departing May 26 and returning on June 9. The entire package costs \$999.50 with lots of goodies in store for the lucky group. Call 5435855 for more information . . . Plan now to attend the Cheaters M/C one day run on April 16, a Saturday, and costing \$5.00. More on this later . . . Congratulations to the Cheaters on their 10th Anniversary and a smashing party at the 527 Club last Saturday night with a big crowd in attendance. The food, booze and cake all made for a happy event.

PUCCI, GUCCI AND SMUCCI . . . Hope you've had a chance to drop into the new Round-Up. The decor now includes large windows to watch the "numbers" walking by and a mellow bartender on duty - Jack Arico - a very hot man. Ken Misso is running the place now and has put some new life into one of S.F.'s more famous bars . . . The price of coffee being what it is, be advised that if you hire a Richard Elmon model, they at least bring their own, regular or instant,



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SECTION X PULLOUT

please ... Congratulations to Madame LaFarge, formerly of here, now the 6th Emperor of Long Beach - and our fabulous Jane Doe certainly did pee in Vancouver AND Long Beach last weekend, thank you ... The Grub-stake is glittering with a new stainless steel kitchen; drop in for one of their fantastic hamburgers, and say hi to Bobby Kerns. He's the one with the scars on his face after a truck jumped up and hit him when he was flying low, real low ... Gary Robinson is still hustling that booze at the Pen-

dulum with Charlie Brown and Peter, and Kenny Morgan is still wowing them at Castro Station. Welcome home to Doug Kopecky after a 2-week stint with Uncle Sam's Navy. And does that button with a set of tracks and a number "6" mean anything we should all know? ... Lenny Mollet says the 527 Club now offers Off the Levee Nostalgia Nite on Wednesdays with dinners 2 for 1; they still offer "Steak and Date" Nite on Tuesdays when you get a 12 oz. New York Steak for yourself and another one for

your date for just a dollar more ... For fans of Terry Taylor, you'll be delighted to know Terry is alive and well and living in the Los Angeles area and looking just divine at the Long Beach Coronation ...

Welcome to SFO to Bernard Jay, fresh from the success of his two plays, running simultaneously in Sydney, Australia, and dropping in for a couple of days in Baghdad by the Bay ... Gregg I of Long Beach is in the midst of remodelling Buzzby's; and, from all reports, it will be super when finished. And belated Happy Birthday to Don Berry, Reba Rattlesnake, Ginger and Bob Dockendorff - also to my beloved editor and publisher, Bob Ross, on April 2 ... Jim Stoll is leaving Operation Concern for Maui, and we wish him all the luck in the world. Applications are being accepted now for the position heading up the nation's first Gay counseling center for Gays and by Gays - and don't forget, Circus-Circus is July 31 ... How would you like to win fifty, yes FIFTY, T-shirts from the Advocate to Zelda's? Raffle tickets for \$1 will soon be on sale to benefit Operation Concern; and the T-shirts, a Febe's statue, and three films from BART Studios will be given away as well ... Speaking of T-shirts, the Lion Pub's T-shirt will be the subject of a magazine, nationally distributed, soon and right on the front cover ... The Ramrod is still giving you a chance to win that Honda with drawings almost every night - the bike to be given away on Memorial Day weekend ... Now just who do you suppose those license plates that say "PEON ME" belong to? A Mexican Count, King or Queen? Or a Golden Shower Queen that wears rimless glasses? ... Time will tell. Tell who? I know, Randy, get the hook. Incidentally, my good friend Randy Johnson of Febe's and the Glory Holes (she has a permanent stall there) will be my Co-MC for the 4th Annual Golden Dil-

deaux Awards at the Boot Camp on May 27, and hope you get nominated for one this year kids ... Don't forget, 7/7/77 is the date set for the big Toad Hall Show at the Castro Theater ... Jane Doe's Investiture is on Sunday, April 3, at the Golden Gate Theater. The tickets are on sale everywhere or contact one of the Doe Boys ... That was a nice column you wrote, Gary McDonald, right on! ... Emperor Hector will stage his birthday party on April 23. Watch for the details as it sounds great because it also happens to be Emperor Norton's real birthday - and thank you, Mr. Caen, for the mention ... Fans of Dick Cook - the former Bartender of

the Year at the Boot Camp is back there in S.F.'s only electric toilet, and the faithful are flocking to see a REAL bartender in action.

Remember, if you are eligible, give blood and the Inter-Club Fund will be most grateful. See you in and around the campus; in the meantime, love your brothers and sisters; and, remember, we're still boycotting Florida orange juice and don't you think Ms. Anita Tyrant knows it!

P.S. Remember, C.A.G.E. (Citizens Against Government Entrapment) present their first big concert on Wednesday, April 6, at the Boarding House with Pearl Heart, Sylvester and Bobby Kent - all for only \$5. See you there!

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Porn Corner

by George Robert

Another Event

And there was yet ANOTHER event at the Spartan "All-Male Cinema & Lounge" two weeks ago, but not to preview a movie (grace a Dieu), but to slobber over their new "In Person & On Stage" review of Kurt Williams (Kansas City Trucking Co., Where Joey Lives) and Steve King (Hollywood Liberty).

Well, we got there early enough and sat through a rather dreary and over-exposed vintage film. I mean, in the background they had a billboard advertising Cinerama! But our reverie was soon disturbed by a clerical voice asking the gay press to assemble in the vestibule and meet the two stars, in person. We did. Shook hands, everyone nodded and stood about looking stupid. Finally, that was over with, we had some more bubbly and waited for the stars to do their thing.

The lights dimmed, music blared and our macho-drag lovelies

started doing it ... bump, grind, all in Levis, hats, boots, etc. They resembled, as one member of the elite corps of assembled journalists said, the elephants swinging their trunks in Fantasia. And they did. But that segment was soon ended, and down to the nitty gritty with flesh, jock straps, and boots (I think), dry humping, etc. They should have had "odor-rama" - essence of locker room/laundry bag pumped in to enhance the setting. All this was accompanied by a row of humping rain coats up front. It was erotic. Finally, the last of the clothing was removed, and the action became a bit more dynamic (Use your imagination). The strobe light effect was real good. It was the best of the live shows I've seen to date.

"To be middle-aged is to be - well, what is it? It is to have hope without expectation, courage with strength, desire without the fire."

- H. L. Mencken



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Saga of Little Ruby

Back in Rome et cetera

by George

Abbazia Madonna del
Smo. Sacramento
4/18/69

Dear Diary,

Well, here I am back in Rome. The trip wasn't too eventful, except for the fact of getting to the station was a little hairy. French and Italians do have the knack of making one a believer when you ride in a car with them. The chaplain, P. Jean-Marc said we ought to recite the Ave Maria, but I suggested the Nunc Dimittis*.

would be more appropriate. He was not very amused, and I wasn't joking.

I took the little red and yellow gas train down the valley to St. Laurent-les-Bains/La Bastide; there the main line turns from the north turns off to go to Italy via Modane. It wasn't much of a wait, and the valley is so pretty at that time of year. Chateaux up on the cliffs, waterfalls... Finally, the Rome Express came along, I got on, found my compartment and went to sleep.



A mural in the cave at Subiaco, where Sr. Ruby encountered the rather ferocious (in several ways) Italian farmers. It is not far from the altar with the *a spiritu fornicationis* inscription.

I awoke early in the morning, with light just on the horizon. The train had stopped at one of those way stations (some express!), and two men came into my compartment, a father and son. They muttered something to me, sat down and set about to have breakfast. They unwrapped an enormous piece of Gorgonzola, sliced off some chunks, then some bread, and began to eat, taking occasional nips at the bottle of red wine. I nearly got sick, the smell was so revolting at that hour, and I do love Gorgonzola, but at 4 AM!

There was a partial strike on the railway. I forgot which segment was on strike; it had something to do with the red and green lights. Anyway, each time the train came to a light, it was red, so we stopped, and waited... and waited. There was nothing at all on the line, but we had to wait. Eventually the lights turned green, and we took off

like a bat out of hell, until we came to the next light. I found myself muttering something very uncharitable about Italians. *Miserere mei...*

* Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace.
Luke 2:29

4/22/69

Dear Diary,

Well, Rome will never change. I'm not sure if I'm happy or not about that. There are times I really do become exasperated with these people. However, being a member of the cloth, I ought not let things of the world bother me, but it's hard at times.

Sr. Mary Immaculate of the Holy Odors was telling me about an incident that happened to her while I was away, during the mail strike. Well, the day before the strike, she was on her way to class on her Vespa. (As well as being the motherhouse, this is also an international house of studies, where the students attend the various Pontifical & Other Institutes.) It had been raining and the tram tracks were a bit slippery, and the Vespa skidded and she fell off and broke her arm. She was taken to the hospital and she was all fixed up, and then came home. A month later the strike was over, and a letter arrived from the Doctor, dated the day of the strike. In it he asked her to return to the hospital to have the cast re-set. She got on the phone and after finally getting through to him, asked why he hadn't simply called since he knew of the strike. She could picture him shrugging, and muttering something about stupid foreigners and their silly questions.

It's a test of faith. It reminded me of when I was in Spain. I had to go from the Spanish/French border to Bilbao on my way to Santander. Well, I waited around for a normal looking train to arrive. There was nothing there. The hour for departure got closer and closer, and finally, I asked someone at the ticket office if they spoke English or French. They didn't, but they knew of someone who did. (All this via sign language and similar words). He would return in 15 minutes. Finally, a one-eyed porter came shuffling along and he knew some French. He said the train to Bilbao was over there. I looked and gasped. There stood this wreck which looked as if it hadn't survived their Civil War. But people were getting on board. He helped me carry my bags, found me a seat, and left. I sat there looking at the tracks through the broken floor boards. Soon the train bumped, shuddered, went back and forth, and stopped. Then it started. Two other nuns sitting on the other side made the sign of cross when the train started again. I thought it was a nice religious gesture. Little did I know it was a sheer act of faith. That train went up and down mountains, crawled along the narrowest cliffs, all the while shuddering, with what seemed to be a 600 foot drop into the ocean. Oh, it was wilder than anything I had encountered in France or Italy.

5/30/69

Dear Diary,

Today I took a little holiday. A friend of mine's brother lives here in Rome. He is an architect here (illegally, as so many others), and knows every church, museum, monastery, cave and obscure village up and down the country. He called me and asked if I'd like to go to Subiaco to see the two abbeys and the caves where St. Benedict lived in the beginning. The day couldn't have been lovelier—sunny, no clouds, and all the fruit trees were in bloom. We took one of those wild bus rides south of Rome. Subiaco is in the hills, and the monastery(ies) is up on top, overlooking a wild river gorge. The various buildings are covered with murals, but those in the caves are much better, mostly 13th century German, in quite vivid detail. There are lots of altars, and an iron fence at the entrance of the cave so one won't fall to an untimely death. (One enters from the back via a staircase). There was a wedding

The Sun God

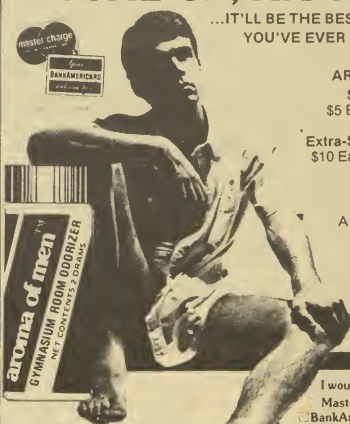
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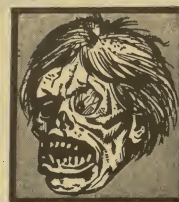
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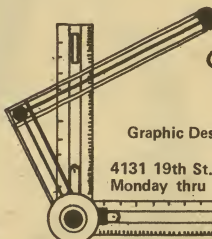
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going on, and some rather virulent farmers were standing in the back, reeking of garlic and sweat, all dressed up and talking loudly. I asked what they were saying, and regretted asking when told. So we went closer to the entrance where there stood a simple altar with a marble plaque in the floor with the following inscription: "Per intercessionem S. Benedicti Ab. A Spiritu Fornicationis Libera Nos Domine"

St. Francis used to jump into brambles when he had these problems, but I guess the monks of old figured a 300 foot drop was too much when tempted. Being practice, a simple prayer in marble reminded them. Good for them.

(To be continued)

* Thru the intercession of Saint Benedict, from the 'spirit' of fornication, deliver us O' Lord."

Chubbies & Chasers

On a recent visit to the East Coast, I was entertained by friends of the late Gay poet, Frank O'Hara. Over coffee the conversation turned to a contrast of Gay life on each coast. "The only thing San Francisco ever gave to New York," commented one of the guests, "was fist fucking." As the lone representative of "Frisco" (as New Yorkers insist on designating the town - regardless of how unchic our localites consider the word), the wind was somewhat taken out of my sodomite sails.

San Francisco, like

Venice, is not a city of "firsts." Occasionally we do pop up some novelty - more than likely in the heat and tumble of our sexual liberation. Thankfully to date we have no bar to compete with New York's infamous "Toilet," the first water sports emporium in the decivilizing world.

* * *

A happier and healthier San Francisco first is the Girth and Mirth Club for chubbies and chubby chasers.

A year ago Charlie met Ed; they fell in love and got "married." For each, the other was the man of his dreams... the longed and lusted for knight in shining armor. Only unusual feature: Charlie weighed in at 135, and Ed was easily 235 - give or take a few pounds.

The clincher for Charlie weren't Ed's blue eyes or blond hair, or the size of his cock, but Ed's tonnage. Ed found it hard to believe - after years of experiencing the bitter lines of "no feds, fats, or oldies need apply" - that his major liability was suddenly his major asset. Or put another way: lose weight and he could well lose his mate.

Charlie and Ed discussed their good fortune in meeting and finally being able to admit to their sexual fantasies. And they wondered how many more there were like themselves... Charlie decided to put an ad in the "Berkeley Barb." (Ed said, "At first I thought he was nuts.") The response

was boggling - over 70 people replied. Calls came in from all over the country, and out of the interest that was generated was born the Girth and Mirth Club.

We attended their recent meeting at the 527 Club on Bryant St. It was the evening after St. Patrick's Day, and one of the members had prepared a belated corned beef and cabbage dinner for the thirty present - and no one was counting calories.

The club meets the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month at 8:00 pm. They open their evening with a short business meeting. On the agenda that evening was a raffle, whether to have food at the next meeting, and the visit from B.A.R.

When we arrived, the group was discussing plans for an up-coming night at the baths. Charlie's announcements that the Girth and Mirth had been assured double beds brought a rousing hurrah from the members. The visitors from B.A.R. were introduced, and we wanted to know all the whys and wherefores. They wanted to know all the latest on Anita Bryant. One chubbette (we learned there were chubbettes, chubbies and jumbos) asked why the B.A.R. carried no reviews of Gay science fiction. At that point the door opened and a sizable young man stepped into the room. "Is this where the Girth and Mirth Club meets?" he asked. On being so assured, he flipped open his leather

jacket, pirouetted his rotunda... and camped. "Well, I guess I'm in the right place." The crowd applauded.

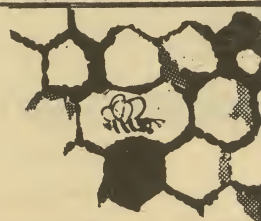
In the question and answer period, one chaser claimed he was attracted to fat men because "they are always jolly." "That's a bunch of shit," bellowed a jumbo from the other side of the room.

It soon became apparent that what brought these men together at first was not what kept them together. In their early months Charlie reported more chasers were involved, now the chub-

bies predominate. The Girth and Mirthers are today an active, social, cohesive group. They organize outings, hold picnics, circulate a newsletter, "The Last Chance Gazette," among some 270 members. Not unlike the Elks, the American Legion and the Rotarians, they are people meeting people, concerned with each other's welfare. Strong friendships have been forged, but most of all they enjoy what they are doing.

They've discovered that sexual specialties house

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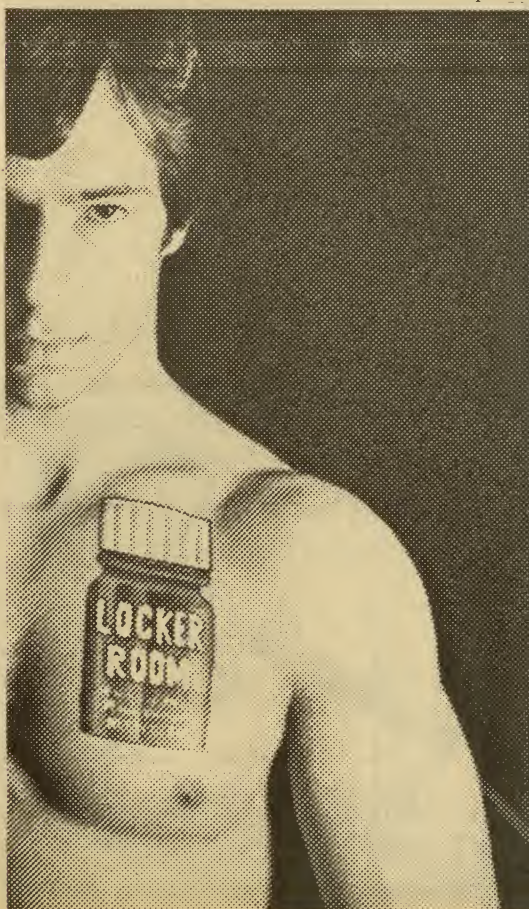
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wheels within wheels. weight, others dieting. As Some chubbies are at "chaser" Tony commented peace with their size and on introducing his lover, shape. Some are gaining "He lost 125 pounds, and

if he loses any more I'll trade him in for a new model."

Some chasers like but-tocks, others broad shoulders and hairy chests. Some are attracted by round shapes, the curving lines, the mass. As in art... a preference for the organic as opposed to the geometric. To some chasers angular lines hold no appeal. To a few, skin-and-bones is a dirty word.

Several members readily revealed what factors they felt gave rise to their sexual preferences. These self-analyses were illuminating, and no two were identical. The stories seemed to suggest that sexual specialties were as unique as one's fingerprints. Someday when our contemporary psychologists and psychiatrists get beyond their classifying and labelling, they will discover that they have as many categories as there are human beings. And the time will come when we all fathom totally the line from Truman Capote's "A Christmas Memory," "There's never two of anything." And that classification never was nor will ever be more than a myth. At best a convenient myth.

We were heartened to witness San Francisco's Girth and Mirth Club prospering. As any member will tell you, it is a hell of a lot saner than

the cruelty of the bar scene, the dehumanization of the meatracks, or the degradation of places like NYC's "Toilet." Would that there were more outlets like Girth and Mirth.

Fat and fat-fans by today's emaciated standards are regarded as some sort of crime or disease. Marlon Brando or Elvis Presley reaches 230 pounds and the international gossip wires crackle. The public reacts as if they had been stricken with terminal scabies. Why?

Leaving the Girth and Mirth, we wondered aloud if "fatophobia" was not more questionable than "fatophilia." With a jumbo thing for sure - pound for pound you certainly get your pleasure's worth.

P. Lorch

VD Awareness Night

The S.F. City V.D. Program, in conjunction with SF Gay Rap, will present a talk on "Sexually Transmitted Diseases" (Part I: Hepatitis) followed by Free VD Testing. The guest speaker will be Erwin H. Braff, M.D., Director, Bureau of Disease Control, S.F. Dept. of Health.

The talk and tests will take place Tuesday, April 5, at the First Congregational Church (basement) at Post & Mason from 8:00 to 10:30 PM. The confidential VD tests will be for syphilis and gonorrhea.

Jim Stuart and Michael LoBue, both staff of the SF VD Clinic, alarmed at the ever-rising rate of VD amongst the Gay community, have decided to take their case into the community. They are engaged in conducting free seminars and testing wherever they are invited. Interested groups are urged to contact Jim or Mike at 558-4482.

State Senate Heaves Stull Bill To Ban Beach Nudes

The Senate Natural and Wildlife Committee voted 5 to 2 to reject a proposed bill by Senator John Stull (R - Escondido). The legislation would have eliminated the authority of the State Parks Dept. to designate "swimsuit optional" beach areas. Stull would thereby outlaw nudity on state-operated beaches.

Or only with the approval of the State Legislature.

Under current rules, the Parks Dept. has the authority to permit nude bathing along stretches of the 217 miles of state beaches. To date, no permission has been granted. Clothing is still required on all state property, but the door remains open.

Municipal governments have for some time permitted nudity on beaches under their control.

The committee's rejection was summed up by Senator Ralph Dills (D - Gardena), "We in the Legislature have a lot to do without taking from the Dept. of Parks some of its functions."

Job Corps Ends Discrimination

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Job Corps has recently distributed to all training centers a radically revised manual on "Sexuality" which eliminates all the anti-homosexual elements contained in the previous manual, entitled "Sexual Deviation," urges respect for differing sexual lifestyles, and instructs Job Corps directors that "Rules concerning sexual behavior must be the same for heterosexual and homosexual activities."

The new manual and the change in policy it represents are the direct result of a protest from the National Gay Task Force and subsequent meetings between Job Corps Director John H. Stetson and his staff and NGTF officers.

The previous manual was aimed at the "prevention and management" of homosexuality; included such pseudoscientific phrases as "chronic overt homosexuality"; and prescribed "medical discharges" for "sexual deviation" except in cases where the individual seemed "motivated to change" his or her sexual orientation.

The new manual states clearly that "A man or woman may not be excluded from participating in the Job Corps solely on the basis of their choice of a sexual partner of the same gender. Therefore, homosexuality will be considered as one part of the total spectrum of sexuality, and should be of concern to center staff only when a particular behavior is not in keeping with the center's regulations..."

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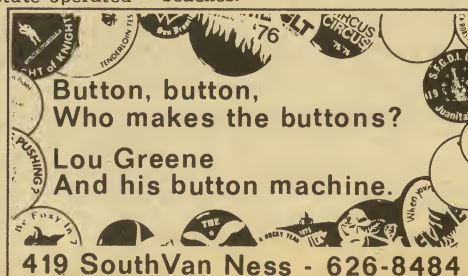
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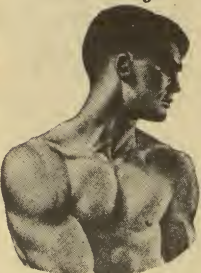
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Donald McLean

From Marcia To Oscar

Show Biz in Review

Club: Marcia Lewis

The most currently enjoyable and entertaining evening in town is a bountiful sprite named Marcia Lewis. From her opening entrance in a mammoth replica of the Hollywood hills atop her head, while crooning "I Wuv Paris" a la Tweetie Bird/Dietrich, she's in total command of her audience and darts from one hilarious hit to another in a beautifully paced and staged act by director Michael Shawn.

With excellent material by Tracy Quinn, Miss Lewis sings a medley of nonsense love songs, waves her limp wand in "Nobody Loves a Fairy Over 40," portrays a little girl getting increasingly plastered and offers a scathingly funny depiction of a saccharine country-western star (easily recognizable) hosting a telethon. But Marcia Lewis is not just a nightclub comedienne per se; she is an actress who sings and does comedy. And in a telephone monologue as a New England lady talking about her Sarah Coventry jewelry and Avon products while trying to find a date, she delves deeper than the merely funny and reveals the bittersweet humor of a Lily Tomlin.

Her cohort in hilarity is pianist Dale Phillips, who gets in a few licks of his own as he plays a rousing overture (3/4 of the way thru the show) comprised of 8 bars of every Broadway musical ever written. Rather than taking just a musical interlude, Phillips maintains the pace Lewis sets; between them, they offer 55 minutes of first-rate entertainment that's guaranteed to tickle anyone's funnybone.

Film: IN REVIEW

The past week has been a critic's nightmare film-wise. Nine films in one week - so I will save a few until next issue and offer a sampling of the drivel and the dynamite just opened.

AIRPORT '77

Oh, God, when will they quit? Each "Airport" gets



The must-see Miss at The Mocambo is MARCIA LEWIS.

increasingly worse, and this latest disaster "epic" is the nadir of the lot. Jack Lemmon needs a hit movie; it's been a long time between jobs; but this is only one more nail in his theatrical coffin. James Stewart is outacted by the sweaty extras, the control panel of the plane, and the fishes swimming past the 747 that falls beneath the sea. You only wish Bruce of "Jaws" had been swimming in the neighborhood and made the cast his just dessert. Great for the passion pits circuit; at the Coliseum.

MR. BILLION

The only thing to recommend this atrociously scripted tale of an Italian mechanic who inherits one billion dollars if he can reach San Francisco is the sexy charisma of actor Terence Hill and one brief fight sequence on the edge of the Grand Canyon. If Hill had any brains, he would have thrown Valerie Perrine over the edge and at least given the film substance. As it is, Miss Perrine combs her hair beautifully and Jackie Gleason gives us another scenery-chewing performance of



Terence Hill grabs Valerie Perrine's knees for support to get through "Mr. Billion."

Jackie Gleason as the International, which should give you your first clue. Brenda Vaccaro plays a model from New York who goes off for the weekend to the country house of a nauseating creep boyfriend; on the road, Don Stroud and his scrungy gang drag race her and she runs them into

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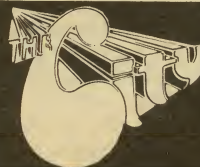
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the mud. Stroud is naturally psychotically pissed off, so he and gang terrorize Vacarro, kill boyfriend (I for one was glad to see him go) and ultimately, everyone dies a blood-letting death except for Vacarro and Stroud. Who will live? Will Brenda kill Don; will Don kill Brenda; does anyone care? At the Warfield on Market, the perfect theater for this flick.

THE CASSANDRA CROSSING

Another all-star epic that offers quite serviceable performances by Sophia Loren, Richard Harris, Martin Sheen, Ann Turkel and Ingrid Thulin. Burt Lancaster is also on hand and Ava Gardner looking tough as nails; the story about a trainload of passengers threatened with a deadly germ trying to make Poland while quarantined on the train to be killed if they fail to make it in time is fun for

star-gazers and sappy for those who want a suspenseful plot. At Cinema 21; it's mindless entertainment for the undiscriminating.

THE EAGLE HAS LANDED

Partially based on a true story, this overlong film recounts the plot in 1943 when Hitler made a last-ditch mad effort for negotiating purposes to kidnap Winston Churchill. The generally excellent cast is headed by Michael Caine as the German hero sent to mastermind the actual kidnap on the coast of England; Donald Sutherland is fine as an Irish ex-patriot helping by infiltrating the small village, and Robert Duvall is the German officer who realizes the mad plan actually can work. Donald Pleasence as Himmler, Jean Marsh as an English spy, and Treat Williams (the falsetto hunk of "The Ritz") as the



Michael Caine is a German spy out to kidnap Winston Churchill in "The Eagle Has Landed."

American officer who foils the attempt are first-rate. John Sturges has directed with tension and suspense, but allowed the pace to remain sluggish too often, mainly because Tom Mankiewicz's script tries to add too many frou-frou touches, such as a quick romance between Sutherland and Jenny Agutter that neither makes sense or helps the plot. If they'd kept it as a 90 minute suspense story, they would have had a good film; at 2 hours and 10 minutes, it's indulgent overkill. But the action sequences are good and the humor of the script is lowkey and telling in the capable hands of Caine and Sutherland. A good film that could have been much better. "The Eagle Has Landed" is certainly well worth your viewing nonetheless. Now playing at the Coronet.

THE DOMINO PRINCIPLE

Gene Hackman, a former Vietnam sharpshooter, has been railroaded by the CIA for killing his wife's lover (he didn't) until such time as they need him out of jail for a political assassination. But Hackman is nobody's man; he makes his own decisions. This Stanley Kramer cloak-and-dagger tale of CIA skullduggery is competently directed, though never achieving the Kramer brilliance of past

efforts. Ultimately, you feel you've seen it all before ... and you have. Candice Bergen, one of Hollywood's best non-actresses, is Hackman's wife, and Edward Albert is splendid as the CIA agent who tries to control Hackman. Hackman himself walks through the film nicely, with little demand made on his talent; and Richard Widmark and Eli Wallach are old pros giving competent support. But "Domino Principle" fails to arouse anything more than mild tension and interest, being neither controversial nor suspenseful. The script by Adam Kennedy is beneath all the talents involved,

especially Kramer's. A competent potboiler now playing at the Empire, Balboa and New Mission.

Club: Reiter & Brown

Jim Reiter and Dewey Brown of the cast of "BBB Goes Bananas" are moonlighting every Tuesday night at Chez Jacques. Both performers are vocally superior and offer good harmony with lowkey charm in a program of contemporary music. The act is just starting out and has a long road to hoe. They fall into the trap of predictable arrangements (one up, one ballad, one up, etc.) with not enough



JIM REITER & DEWEY BROWN—singing every Tuesday at Chez Jacques.

photo by Media Arts

variety in their selections. The act has yet to discover a personality to set it above the average, but hopefully, that will come with time. It needs

punch. Best of their material is a wonderful piece of nonsense by Ronald Towe entitled "Let's All Worship Together," a play upon Hollywood names, Melissa Manchester's "Better Days" and a medley of "She's A Woman" and "You Need A Man." With the addition of more material like Towe's, a better opening number and some personality patter between the two performers, the potential is there for a first-rate club act. They're both attractive, talented guys who need more time and a little inventiveness.

HOT FLASHES

While lamenting that the Bridge Theater on Geary is up for sale, and the Larkin and Music Hall fell with the demise of the Walter Reed chain to be bought by the Mitchell Bros. and turned into second run porno houses (just what we need, more porno houses), there is good news that Louis Chinn's new theater, The

Palladium (formerly The Red Balloon and Basin St. West) on Kearny and Broadway, will open the end of April with a Las Vegas-type revue, headlining comic Jackie Vernon, entitled "The Dressing Room." The new 400 seat theater will host

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—Clive Barnes, N.Y. Times

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PATRICK—The All American Male Stripper—returning in May at Bimbo's.

the revue directed and choreographed by the same team that gave us "Get Down" last year.

And rumor has it that Barry Ashton will bring his Las Vegas revue direct from the Americana in Miami Beach to Bimbo's 365 for the summer. Of special interest is Patrick, the All-American Male Stripper, who spent several years dancing at the Hungry I then went to Vegas, Miami and now returning in full cycle.

Truth is that Bill Solly of "Boy Meets Boy" fame is planning to bring his L.A. smash "The Great American Backstage Musical" with the divine Tamara Long here very shortly. Should be a busy summer for showgoers, especially if our recent openers hold on.

Patti Appel, Chloe of "Out of This World," went directly into "BBB Goes Bananas" replacing Lynn Brown. Lynn broke her leg and will be out of the show for several weeks. Congrats & condolences!

The City has the exciting Liz Torres of "Phyllis" and "All in the Family" coming in, followed by the totally insane Rip Taylor. This will be a rare appearance for Rip, who has not played San Francisco for many years. And The Mocambo has Broadway songstress Dolores Gray set for late April, with Barbara Cook due back. Don't hold your breath waiting for Kaye Ballard to return, however. Or Louis St. Louis, who died a horrible financial death there.

If you're wondering what happened to Craig Russell, he's been in Toronto filming a movie with him in the lead about a sensitive romance between a professional impersonator, bisexual, and a young girl. Now he's headed for the Silver Bird (formerly the Thunderbird

them in will be another good team, Tony Sandler and Ralph Young, opening April 14.

Okay, chefs, get out your cake recipes and send them to Just Desserts. Just Desserts is having a search for new cakes, to be made entirely from scratch. Stop by or send a self-addressed stamped envelope to either location - 1469 Pacific or 248-Church St. - before April 16 for rules. First prize is \$300, second is \$200, third \$100; the contest will be judged between the best 50 cakes on Saturday, April 30, by 14 judges, including Jim Eason of KGO radio, Herb Gold, disc jockey Bonnie Simmons, and me. After tasting 50 cakes, I may be able to rent out as a sideshow attraction.

More news from Vegas - Siegfried & Roy, the phenomenal illusionists of "Hallelujah Hollywood" at the MGM Grand, just won the Entertainment Award as Best Magicians of the Year for the 5th straight year. How monotonous!

The San Francisco Ballet returns to the Opera House with four one-acts, including the world premiere of Tom Ruddy's "Metamorphoses."

REFLECTIONS ON OSCAR

The 49th Oscars - William Friedkin decided to forego the flash of 48 previous outings and opt for dignity with class...

Chevy Chase a great beginning... Richard Pryor funny for three minutes, boring the rest... why did Ellen Burstyn wear that tux? ... kept hoping the theme from "The Omen," that strange Gregorian chant, would win just so Andy Williams had to try and sing it for the next year... Liv Ullman has the most incredible face in film today... Red Skelton didn't fit and tried too hard... Jane Fonda a winner; Warren Beatty a handsome loser, sniping all the way. Why'd he do it if he didn't like it? ... A year to break all the old taboos; invite Norman Mailer to be snide, welcome Lillian Hellman back deservedly (a touching moment) and rightfully allow Avita Finch to accept for her husband, not what looks more socially acceptable by having Paddy Chayefsky accept. Bravo to him for giving her her moment... Barbra still the best singer around, even if she didn't thank anyone for winning... Thank God "Rocky" won best picture, even if Stallone didn't get best actor (dammit)... Faye Dunaway's calm acceptance (the only favor-



FAYE DUNAWAY—the winner for '76!

ite that actually won) most subdued I've ever seen her... Tamara Dobson dreadful; Cecily Tyson delightful... Tatum O'Neal makes me wish birth control was retroactive... loved Pandro Berman's acceptance song Eddie Albert had to sing about dandelion fuzz forgetting the bad and all about? ... Donald McKayle the choreographer knows three steps, none appropriate for dancing... Ann Margaret the Donald McLean

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An Interview With Jules Feiffer

by Donald McLean

Now in previews at the Little Fox Theater is Jules Feiffer's latest Broadway hit, "Hold Me!", making its West Coast debut (hopefully to travel on to L.A. eventually). The eminent cartoonist/playwright briefly zipped through town to supervise rehearsals and meet an admiring press. Looking more like a rumpled bank clerk than a successful artist, Feiffer is an essentially shy man who speaks in matter-of-fact tones about his jaundiced views of the political scene and having a hit show on

Broadway. He also is a self-aware man who knows himself.

"I'm really a product of the bullshit of the 30's movies. But I haven't seen 'A Star is Born.' I don't need to see another Barbra Streisand movie where she ends up winning herself... I never studied to be nothing. But I always wanted to be a cartoonist. I was doing little comic books as a kid. It was Milt Caniff who introduced me with 'Terry and the Pirates' to the idea of character in cartoons... I think that most newspapers today are mindless because they reduce them so much that any really graphic art will look like mud and cartoons that used to be 5 or 6 columns wide are now only 3 or 4. They're barely readable. The newspapers claim it's because of a shortage of space; but if you read what they're printing nowadays, what there's really a shortage of is serious thinking. And cartoonists themselves have come to think of themselves as famous but disreputable. I don't see cartooning and playwrighting as having zilch to do with each other. Only the point of view is the same. You always have to start anything on the assumption it's going to be brilliant. It's a con but you have to believe it or otherwise there's no reason to get up in the morning."

"The only person I admire in the Carter administration is Andy Young. Jerry Brown is a punk. The narcissism and tremendous ego and general callousness outweighs the good. I need to meet Jimmy Carter in person 'cause then I'll know how to draw him. I never could draw Lyndon Johnson until I met him. When I saw those eyes, I realized he was the guy who turned you down at the bank for a loan - and was glad about it. The tragedy of Gerald Ford is he looked like an actor in horror movies. And to have THAT follow Nixon? Nixon was Dr. Frankenstein and Gerald Ford was the monster. I try to never get to know political candidates too well. I



JULES FEIFFER—the noted cartoonist brings his new play to San Francisco.

supported Eugene McCarthy in '68 and was absolutely charmed by him. Thank God he never got anywhere or I would have been in his pocket. During Watergate, I got most of my hate mail from San Francisco and L.A. But none when I attacked Henry Kissinger. It's amazing how much underground hostility there was toward Kissinger. He should have won the Nobel Prize for warmaking!"

Prior to "Hold Me!" Feiffer's previous Broadway debacle was "Knock Knock," which opened off-Broadway in a 99 seat house and moved onto Broadway with 900 seats without any re-direction. It is also said to be his most optimistic play to date. "With 'Knock Knock,' I mainly wanted to have a good time. In every other play, I had known exactly what I wanted to say when I sat down to write. It took four years and five producers to get 'Knock Knock' on and I wanted to do another play but I felt nothing but bitterness toward the theater. We were immune with hit-dom; it was collective dopiness by all concerned. I've always found what I do optimistic. Optimistic and full of hope are not the same thing. But Pollyanna I have not become."

"Hold Me!" is the transference of Feiffer's cartoons to the stage. "I tried to get some social segments into the evening and when we got into rehearsals, they just laid there. Good cartoons simply didn't make good theater. It became clear that what worked was the discovery of relationships... I wouldn't want to do a political show until it became dangerous to do so, and it's not now. And I think telling people what's right and wrong is a royal

pain in the ass... always!"

Jules Feiffer - the Don Quixote of cartoonists tilts quietly in his own way. But obviously his words are as charming and scathing as his pen.

Donald McLean

'Orsborn Tapes' Are For Reel To Reel

"The Orsborn Tapes," a "lost and found musicale" will premiere April 13 at the Old Spaghetti Factory, 478 Green St. Previews will be held April 6-9.

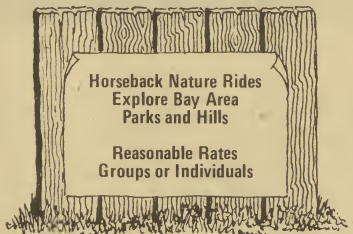
The musical smorgasbord, based on the multi-layered tape recordings of composer Daniel Orsborn - noted for the original score of Michael McClure's hit musical "GORF" and for the United Artists film "Smile" - features such characters as a fish who sings the blues, a karate-rock star and a sexy Neapolitan cafe singer.

The term "lost and found music" was coined by Orsborn to describe his unique combination of traditional musical forms, avant-garde art and slapstick surprises. While working as a composer/producer of radio and TV commercials, he created the recordings as a personal expression for his fantasies of rock stardom, macho myths and high-brow art.

The cast includes Jessica Epstein, who received critical acclaim for her role in The Magic Theatre's "AC/DC"; Michael Harvey, who in "Guys and Dolls" was given a best performance award by the S.F. Chronicle; and Ellena Reisler, a veteran performer with the Lamp-lighter Productions.

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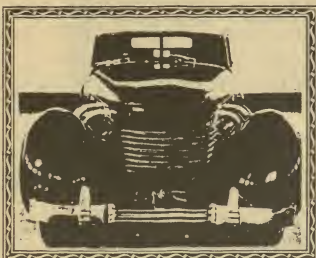
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Tales of Tessi Tura

Spring Opera

by George Heymont

Thursday, April 14 marks the opening night of Spring Opera Theatre's 16th season. This offshoot of the San Francisco Opera is especially valuable to people new to opera who might be somewhat intimidated by what they hear coming from the mouths of hardcore opera buffs.

First of all, every performance is sung in English, which drops one of the most frightening barriers to the operatic newcomer. Productions are also aimed at a feeling of musical theater ranging from intense drama to hilarious farce. The main goal is for the audience to have a good time and to break down certain kinds of resistance peculiar to opera audiences.

Most of this centers around the fact that operas are performed in English. For many people this will ease the fear of not understanding a single word being sung onstage.

Don't think that the regular opera addicts run to the Curran for Spring Opera either. Many staunchly refuse to go to an operatic performance UNLESS it is sung in the original language. Frankly, they don't know what they're missing! This is where Spring Opera

Theatre serves an invaluable function. By emphasizing the dramatic nature of the work, it enables both old and new audiences to get fresh insights and, more importantly, to enjoy opera as total musical theater.

Now then, what are the pickings for this year? Pretty damned good - if you haven't tickets, you'd better trot your buns down to the box office and get some fast!

Opening night is Bizet's CARMEN, one of the favorite operas of all time. CARMEN is the story of that flashy cigarette girl who drives one soldier out of his mind and then drops him for a hot-trick in Toreador drag. The opera includes many familiar pieces of music: the famous Toreador Song, Carmen's two gypsy dances - the Habanera and Seguidilla - both very sensuous numbers. The music captures the varying moods of Spain; the flash of the bull ring, the peacefulness of the mountains, and the poignant tenderness of Jose's flower song.

Hot on the heels of CARMEN comes a revival of Donizetti's rollicking farce, VIVA LA MAMA, which spoofs all operatic conventions and stereo-

types. If you hate opera, you'll love this show. If you feel you've seen too much opera, this is the one that will destroy you with laughter. Written way before Gypsy Rose Lee's mother ever got backstage, it features the pushiest stage mother of all time, a lady who will stop at absolutely nothing for the sake of her children.

Performing as Mamma Agatha will be John Ferrante in what is probably the juiciest drag role in all of opera. Mr. Ferrante is famous for his recordings as a "bargain counter tenor" in the questionable works of P.D.Q. Bach, and for his shameless mugging.

The opera contains many hilarious moments including a ballet sequence that is probably the funniest ten minutes I have ever seen on a stage.

One word of warning before attending a performance of VIVA LA MAMA. Be sure to go to the bathroom before the curtain goes up. The last time it was performed in San Francisco most of the audience was helplessly clutching their sides while doubled over in laughter. While we DO want to flood the aisles with people, we DON'T want to drown the musicians in the pit!

The third work featured is a rarely heard work by Mozart. TITUS is the story of the Roman emperor who learns of an assassination plot aimed at his life and must plead with his people to find



SPRING CLEANING ANYONE??? This lovely demoiselle (John Ferrante as Mamma Agatha) is getting ready to make a clean sweep of San Francisco. Don't miss his performance in Spring Opera Theatre's production of Donizetti's VIVA LA MAMA.

ways to solve things without depending on violence; certainly a topic relevant to today's world. The last evening consists of an interesting triple bill: THE COMBAT by Monteverdi, SAVITRI by Gustav Holst, and THE EMPEROR OF ATLANTIS by Ullmann. This last piece was written in one of the German concentration camps and banned because of its political satire. It created a great stir at the 1976 Spoleto Festival and will receive its American premiere in San Francisco. Our next issue will feature a review of the San Diego Opera's production of LA TRAVIATA with Beverly Sills and some handy travel tips for those of you traveling to San Diego.

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RESERVE
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Hot Wax

Belated Beatles

by H. Klein

I remember some reading for a Poli. Sci. class with a quote by Voltaire, "If the common people like it, it probably isn't any good." Some snob, huh? But you've got to give this Frenchie a certain amount of credit. I mean, I'm not trying to say I know - or, even wanna know - what "good" is, but all my experience with the music industry tells me that the tops of the record-selling charts or radio request charts are not the places to look for great art.

Personally, I'll listen to anything: heavy metal, soul, rock 'n' roll, jazz, country, art-rock, punk rock, blues, even disco. If it moves me - if I FEEL it - I like it. Pop music should be a fun thing, and in the last month or so I've come across a bunch of pop albums that normally wouldn't find their way into this column. So I'll give 'em a column of their own. What they have in common is that they're middle-of-the-road rock, more in the Beatles tradition than anything else.

Cheap Trick

including:
Elo Kiddies/Mandocello
The Ballad Of TV Violence (I'm Not The Only Boy)
Hot Love/Taxman, Mr. Thief



CHEAP TRICK

And speaking about the Beatles, Epic Records feels - judging by the dough, hype, and genuine enthusiasm they're laying out - that they've found the "New Beatles." The band, Cheap Tricks, has a cutting edge hard enough to keep its music head high above the flood of commercial pop that gets released by a hit-and-miss record industry. Their debut album, CHEAP TRICK, is blatantly commercial, which is the ultimate goal any pop group can strive for. Aside from being commercial, it is hard-driven rock not lacking in classic rock 'n' roll humor and plenty of catchy rhythm lines.

The PR man from Epic called and told me to catch these guys 'cause they're gonna be a big smash with Gays. "Why's that?" sez I; "Are they Gay?" He didn't know, but he said that two of 'em are real cute. They played at the Old Waldorf on March 22 and I was curious to see what they could do without a fancy producer (Jack Douglas) and studio over-dubbing.

They're every bit as exciting live as they are on the LP, AND two of 'em ARE cute. (Lead singer Robin Zander runs around the stage like a sexy, somewhat vapid coquette, selling a pouty, flirty sextance more than Jagger ever did.) I wonder if they really will be a sensation among Gays. They are an amazing band. A parody on rock and great rock at the same time. Lots of fun.

LAVENDER HILL MOB

Including Party Song/Magic Lady
Loneliest Man On The Moon
No-One Compares



LAVENDER HILL MOB

On the other extreme of pop-rock music is the Lavender Hill Mob, a six-man ensemble from Montreal. Like the Alec Guinness movie of the same name, Lavender Hill Mob is on United Artists. (The movie is playing at the Richelieu; good movie with Audrey Hepburn playing a bit part.) Anyway, the Lavender Hill Mob just released their first American album, and it's just chock full of peachy four and five-part harmonies. This album is so pretty you almost lose track of the fact that these guys know how to play their instruments. The single, "Party Song," also happens to be the first creative disco cut since Dr. Buzzard's Savannah Band. Which is not to say these Quebecans don't know how to rip off riffs from every place worth ripping riffs. They just do it better than most and with so much (belle) provincial naivete that it makes a damn swell record. "Chibougamau" is a great Andrews Sisters boogie-woogie number, beautifully textured, real cute. This album is as good as anything by Paul McCartney and Wings, also the best U.A.'s put out since Crystal Gayle's last.

HERO

Moving amongst the Beatle-ists, we come to an L.A. pop group on Mercury who call themselves Hero. Another pop band with just enough of a hard edge to make them agreeable to noise-lovers. Hero successfully integrates some absolutely plastic pap with genuinely refreshing and dynamic rock 'n' roll. They've got

a good strong bottom sound, a good vocalist - Scott Phares, formerly of the legendary Hollywood Stars - and a hot pop/rock guitarist. Almost any song on the album can be an AM radio hit, except for the opening cut, a teenage anthem, "I Love the Way You Rock 'n' Roll," which is actually too good for AM radio. Remember, I'm the one who doesn't wanna know what good is. Anyway



Hero makes their Bay Area debut at the Mabuhay Gardens at the end of April - another fun band, which is what pop music's supposed to be all about, right?

KLAATU

While these other pop albums are in the Beatles tradition (the best Beatles song I've heard in a long time is Cheap Tricks "He's A Whore").

KLAATU, by a mystery band of the same name, may BE the Beatles! The album is cloaked in secrecy and mystery (could be a lotta silly hype, right?) but I'll bet that it was either produced by George Martin himself or by someone who has studied his technique carefully. The album is rife with fuzz-toned vocals, Beatlesque harmonies, George Harrison sitar licks, interspersions of brass like you wouldn't believe, lots of whispering, reverse tape effects, etc. The album sounds a little like a cross between SERGEANT PEPPER and MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR. And it's all about interplanetary communication, an appropriately Beatlesque subject. Many lyrics and hooks point towards the Beatles as well, maybe TOO many. Actually, I suspect Klaatu is Ringo's band. (Did you see the 1951 sci-fi flick "The Day the Earth Stood Still"? It had this real neat robot which found its way onto the cover of Ringo's GOODNIGHT VIENNA album. Well, Klaatu was the name of the intergalactic emissary played by Michael Rennie in the same movie.) In any case, if you happen to go in for that late 60's-early 70's Beatles sound, you're bound to dig KLAATU.

It takes one to know one. That's probably why all the penguins ended up at the South Pole.

- Tom Robbins,
"Even Cowgirls
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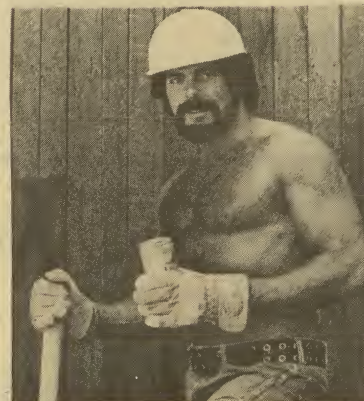
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YOUNG MENS STUDIO APARTMENTS

Imperator et Rex

by Hector

We had a wonderful trip to Vancouver! It was refreshing to once again experience winter as it should be experienced. The snow-capped Canadian mountains were breathtaking and the northern scenery was richly appreciated. As usual, our good friends in Canada afforded us hospitality at its best and we especially enjoyed the Coronation Ball. Our own Charles Pierce entertained to an incredibly large crowd in the lavishly decorated ballroom. We really had a great time and would like to once again congratulate the new Empress and Emperor of Vancouver, Billie and Ritchie. May you have a beautiful Reign!

There are many activities in the air. We begin again at 5:00 pm on Sunday, April 3, with the Investiture of Empress de San Francisco, Jane Doe. Empress Jane and her committee have planned an elaborate Investiture at the Golden Gate Theater. I would certainly appreciate members of the Gamecock Court attending in appropriate uniform. You can be sure of a good time!

Following Jane's Investiture will be a special pre-hanging dinner for Sweet Lips at the Q.T. on Polk. Tickets are now available at the Kokpit. And on Monday, April 4, I would again like to draw together the members of the Gamecock Court to pay tribute to the Lips at the Seventh Hanging at the Kokpit. This is one event that gets a little more bizarre each year; please do yourself a favor and don't miss it.

The weekend of April 15 we will be attending the Denver, Colorado, Coronation Ball. Wally Rutherford and I are working on the arrangements. Should you like to go, you can reach

Wally evenings or weekends at 621-3967; and, of course, my phone is 626-9081.

April 23 marks the "Emperor's Birthday Party" which will be an annual event for charity. The Birthday Party, a benefit this year for the Community Center, will begin at 8:00 pm Saturday, April 23, at the Center, 330 Grove. Empress VI Cristal is pulling out all the stops in decorating, with plans to turn the Community Center into Golden Gate Park! We will have trees, shrubs, fountains, and yes, even park benches. The donation is \$2.00 advance, \$2.50 at the door. Tickets will be available at the next meeting of the Court on April 4. We will celebrate the Emperor's Birthday with fun & games, dancing, prizes every fifteen minutes (without interrupting the dancing) and, of course, a no-host bar.

Also on April 23 & 24 the CMC "Junk Fair" will be held at Seaman's Hall. The Gamecock Court will have a booth, and I encourage all members to bring to our booth baked goods or fun things to sell. The proceeds will go into our Court treasury for promotion of our upcoming activities. This sounds like a fun couple of days and hope all of you can make it.

I'd like you to be thinking about and getting ready for the Hollywood Canteen on May 21, a benefit for Operation Concern. The Hollywood Canteen, since only a very few of you remember, is reminiscent of World War II; and you should plan your outfits around that theme. You can come as your favorite movie star from Hollywood Canteen or in your sharpest World War II military uniform. We will have free coffee and doughnuts, a no-host

bar, and another opportunity for Bob Cramer's special outfit!

Now, a word on the "other" side of our community life! I pursued the

Emperor's title for the basic purpose of Gay charity. The Empress and Emperor titles should be used for that purpose, BUT, not abused! We have individuals in our midst who have issued titles to themselves, whose egos are beginning to get away with them and who many times scheme to build their personal finances and/or status in the community. Although many times they host and promote activities and/or issue awards in the name of a viable charity, they have absolutely no authority or right to do so. They are not elected to any office; they have not been duly appointed to any title they might hold or declare; and they often use under-handed methods to recruit attendance at the activities they host. Example: a telephone call to me says, "Jane Doe is going to attend; will you?" Jane Doe receives a telephone call moments later saying, "Hector is going to attend, will you?" We both commit ourselves because we feel we should and will work together, but this business of working behind our backs has got to stop. Both Jane and I are committed to using our names and titles for any viable organization in our community. We would like this done properly and with our unqualified permission. We will not permit our names and titles used on promotional flyers or advertising without our permission. Very few knowingly abuse what we stand for, but for those few, it is necessary to say what I have said.

It has been the duty of wives to submit to husbands, not of husbands to submit to wives. The only basis for this view was that if wives could be induced to accept it, it saved trouble for their husbands." Bertrand Russell

"Gay"

- Our Word, Their Word?

Why Call Them Gay?

BY JACK WARNER

PART II

The word "gay" has come into use as a descriptive term for homosexual people and homosexual practices not because homosexuals themselves have chosen it, but because it has grown naturally out of prior use in the language. It is a term bestowd by straight society. There are probably a number of ways in which the use of the word can be traced. What I offer here are four easy-to-find examples of usage that suggest a pattern.

In his book *THE PRINCE OF PLEASURE AND HIS REGENCY*, 1811-20 (Harper and Row, 1969), J. B. Priestley quotes a statement from an unnamed "Victorian chronicler of the press": "Much appeared in the journalism of those times which no lady of delicate mind would read aloud, and which no gentleman, however 'gay' he might be, would dare to read in the hearing of a lady (p. 157, italics added)." The word 'gay' is somewhat ambiguous in meaning here, but it obviously doesn't mean happy or merry. It doesn't mean homosexual, either, however. It seems to suggest a man who is knowledgeable and experienced in the kinds of sexual matters that were not openly discussed in Victorian times.

In the play "Rain," based on W. Somerset Maugham's story "Miss Thompson" by John Colton and Clemence Randolph (Boni and Liveright, 1923), the whore Sadie Thompson used the word 'gay' in a way that also cannot possibly mean either happy or homosexual. She speaks of "the gay cafes in Honolulu (p. 57)" to suggest that they were gathering places for women prostitutes, and she asks about another woman who has been a prostitute in the past: "Do I get you - do you mean this Maggie was sort of gay before Biff came along (p. 139)?"

FUNK AND WAGNALL'S NEW "STANDARD" DICTIONARY (1947) gives this definition of "gay": "Loving pleasure, especially forbidden pleasure; wanton; as, a 'gay' young widow." It also gives as an example of meaning and usage a sentence from J. A. James's *YOUNG MAN'S FRIEND* which dates to 1879: "Modern refinement in demoralization has selected a term of some attraction to describe a profligate, and he is said to be 'gay'."

WEBSTER'S THIRD NEW INTERNATIONAL DICTIONARY (1961) gives this information: "4a - given to social pleasures; b - inclined to the dissipations of society: licentious, loose; c - of a woman: leading an immoral life; esp: engaging in prostitution; d - homosexual."

From these four sources, presenting information that covers about a century, a picture begins to emerge. For at least a hundred years, the word "gay" has meant something other than happy and merry, and this other meaning, it is clear, has consistently had something to do with sex, especially some form of sex that was not approved by polite society. We needn't doubt that homosexuality and prostitution were linked in this concept. There are also other terms in the Gay vocabulary which were once widely used by prostitutes - for example, "cruise," meaning to go hunting for a sex partner, and "trick," the sex partner once he is found.

And we can see, then, the Victorian attitude toward sex has obviously had something to do with the present application of the word "gay" to homosexual people and homosexual practices. Homosexuality was (and is) one of the forbidden pleasures, and a person who engaged in any of the forbidden pleasures was said to be gay.

In our time, the term has generally fallen out of use with respect to prostitution and other so-called licentious behavior. Occasionally, however, we still hear the word used in this sense - in the expression "gay old dog," for instance. It is an expression of this type that can also give us a clue to the way in which the two meanings of the word may be related. A "gay old dog" is merry and bright because he is having fun as he indulges in forbidden pleasures.

But as the word has fallen out of general use regarding prostitution and other licentious behavior, it has continued to be attached to what remains - homosexuality. This particular use of this term indicates that the word has become specialized in meaning, and specification in word usage is a rather common phenomenon.

Thus, there is nothing unusual or mysterious - or perverted - about the way that the word "gay" has come to mean homosexual. It seems quite clear that "gay" is a word that was originally used by society in an opprobrious way - perhaps even as a euphemism for words more opprobrious - and then was later taken up by homosexuals themselves and converted into a useful term. Now that the word has lost its sting, society no longer recognizes it, preferring instead words that have retained their toxicity.

...to be continued



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Books

Loving Someone Gay

by Don Clark

Celestial Arts, 1977; 190 pages; \$4.95

Review # 1

PSYCHIATRIST: How are you feeling today?

GAY PATIENT: Much better.

PSYCHIATRIST: Why?

GAY PATIENT: I've just realized that I'm capable of experiencing affirmational as well as recreational sex.

PSYCHIATRIST: What do you mean?

GAY PATIENT: Sometimes I can go to bed with someone I love and at other times I'm able to hop in the sack for the sheer hell of it.

PSYCHIATRIST: You've been reading one of those popular psychology books again.

GAY PATIENT: This book is different. It's called "Loving Someone Gay" by a homosexual psychologist. Guy named Don Clark.

PSYCHIATRIST: He's probably trying to justify his own emotional conflicts.

GAY PATIENT: But I felt greatly reassured after reading the book. He tells how to come out of the closet to your relatives and friends. He says it's even possible for a Gay person to have sex with a close friend and...

PSYCHIATRIST: Impossible. That would be too threatening to the fragile ego structure maintained as a rigid defense against his overwhelming Oedipus Complex. I would advise against reading such trash.

GAY PATIENT: He talks about the pleasures of being Gay. Dr. Clark feels we can relate to people in depth, whether they're male or female. And he talks about homophobia...

PSYCHIATRIST: Homo... what?

GAY PATIENT: Homophobia - an abnormal fear of homosexuals. It's a new concept developed by Dr. George Weinberg in his book "Society and The Healthy Homosexual."

PSYCHIATRIST: Wait a minute. Can he prove any of these notions?

GAY PATIENT: Sure. He talks about group therapy sessions he holds that last all weekend. He describes the whole process in detail. Body massage... fantasy exercises...

PSYCHIATRIST: And everything ends with a wild sex orgy.

GAY PATIENT: Now you're jumping to wild conclusions. No drugs are allowed. It's perfectly ok. I have the book right here. Let's see. (thumps through pages) Oh, yes. On this page he says, "A Gay person may generally



DR. DON CLARK, Author

be more sexually attracted to people of the same gender, but he has learned through freedom that it is only possible to love a person because of the way the WHOLE person is." And then, another place he says, (turns a few pages) "The announcement of Gay identity does not reveal a totally new person, it simply adds a new dimension."

PSYCHIATRIST: That is all very interesting. Now, let's get on with the session. Let's examine your latest dreams.

GAY PATIENT: Last night I dreamed I was undergoing a delicious body massage during one of Don Clark's therapy sessions. My body cried out for more and more.

PSYCHIATRIST: How did the dream end?

GAY PATIENT: Suddenly I was surrounded by a bank of beautiful white clouds and a soothing voice commanded me to rush out and buy "Loving Someone Gay." Another voice told me I should stop seeing you because you suffer from homophobia and harbor a deep hatred of Don Clark.

PSYCHIATRIST: That's a completely irrational dream. Shows you're cut off from reality.

GAY PATIENT: But I've

never felt better in my life. Besides, I can't afford you anymore. I've even sold my Tiffany lamp.

PSYCHIATRIST: That sounds like a Gay stereotype.

GAY PATIENT: That's why I sold the lamp. I wanted the book. Now I'm cured.

by Frank J. Howell

Review # 2

Working and living in the hub of a Gay publication, one tends to swallow thousands of words on Gay life. Every day a paper, a magazine, a press release arrives from some part of the country: Tucson, Little Rock, Pittsburg, Houston.

Reporters, columnists, Gay activists flood the office with copy, news, gossip. The phones are a steady bell chorus of complaints, rumors, inquiries, tragedies and triumphs. We learn who wore what to the coronation, who was arrested for flashing, what bar is going bankrupt, what restaurant is changing hands. To write or edit, I brown-bag my copy and blue pencil home each night to the kitchen table.

I find myself engulfed in Gay news, prose and blather. Moments I wonder if I haven't jeopardized my sense of proportion. And when I pick up or delve into the latest Gay fiction or treatise, I find myself looking for something fresh, something invigorating, something engaging.

I wonder if being deluged with so much in-house commonplace, I label the external works commonplace, much too quickly. I must be careful, when a book offers itself as a primer in Gay awareness, not to pass it off as "another one of those basal books." One shouldn't judge a bland diet with a palette ever hungry for the hottest curry. Judgment should only be in terms of a book's execution, how it fulfills its intention.

Gay progress in San Francisco is well down the track. One forgets that in some quarters, and in certain breasts, the ponies

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haven't even been called into the starting gates. I sometimes forget that homophobia is alive and well in Prairie City and Gopher Junction. And that 'boobus americanus' still reigns and rampages as king of the inland

swamps. That adolescents are still taking their own lives in Grosse Point and Newark, N.J. - kids unable to deal with their budding homosexuality, peer oppression and the absence of empathetic counseling. LOVING SOME-

ONE GAY is a book of empathetic counseling.

In general, the Gay "problem" in San Francisco is not one of coming out but hanging on to our gains. Maintaining our equilibrium through the chaos of our new freedoms. In addition, breaking the ground to the next phase of Gay awareness and Gay sensibility. All in all, uncharted territories. I do not believe our guides for these nebulae will be psychologists but physicists. And yet this is still 1977.

I found therapist Clark's work competent, soberly and gently reasoned. Sensitive and supportive. (I sensed it reflects the man himself.) He has experienced the pain, witnessed the lives tossed in havoc, absorbed the anger and fear of both Gays and their family and friends. Clark's voice is calming, his intentions sincere.

The first third of the

book - what it is to be Gay - and the last third - how to help someone Gay - are the least engaging. This is not to say unnecessary or mundane for those who know little or nothing about Gay life. Or for those who want to help. Those who can and have done more harm than good. These uninformed and good-intentioned need deprogramming, and Don Clark serves this readership ably.

I found the center chapters more to my needs and inclination, for Clark suggests there is so much further we Gays can travel. As a liberated, self-sufficient Gay male, I am a toughened old bird, a battle-scarred veteran. Perhaps tougher and feistier than I need be. That having made it through the hostile and battering labyrinth, it's time to realize survival is not all, that resting on one's laurels is another variation of being locked inside one's thick-walled counting house. That a lot of me is Ebenezer Scrooge.

Towards the book's end, Clark reveals his mentors: Freud, Reich, Jung, Sullivan, Rogers, Perls, and Maslow. His own style, he concludes, is an "eclectic conglomerate." He warns that a homophobic tradition (from his experience and observation) has developed among Bioenergeticists, Primal therapists, post-Freud Freudians, and behavior-modification adherents. Not that it had to, but it seems to have happened. These points I (with a long history of "shrinkophobia") would have preferred in the introduction. Although Clark's humanistic, transcendental position is never in doubt.

Don Clark is not an exciting, graphic writer. His prose never snaps one to attention; it never goes for the jugular. Conversely, it never goes for broke. His style is simple, placid ... sometimes downright dull. At times jargon, smeared and veneered.

LOVING SOMEONE GAY is a gentle book, kind both to friend and foe. The message is totally, consistently positive. For this reason alone a valuable contribution. To anyone thinking of hiring a therapist, if the latter hasn't read it or doesn't respond heartily to its message - save your pennies. They'd be better invested buying and reading Clark - for starters.

by Paul Lorch

Workshop For Young Gays At Fort Help

Gay youth and adults interested in the struggles of high school age Gays are invited to a free Community Forum on Saturday, April 16, at Fort Help, 169 11th St., San Francisco, 10:30 am to 4:00 pm. Bring your own lunch. For information, call Tom Fry, Director of Our House - Making a Difference with Youth, 626-5851.

There will be ten workshops from 12-2 PM at the Community Forum with appropriate resource people. Julius Johnson of the Fort Help staff will be the Forum Master of Ceremonies.

Tom Fry has been working since January with Gay youth, Gay community workers and youth service agency staff to plan a comprehensive program for Gay youth and youth uncertain of their sexual identity. Gay community fund raising and grant applications to the Mayor's Committee on Criminal Justice and to private foundations are in process.

According to Fry, "Support for the program has been strong from all sides, including many youth service agencies - both private and government - and from their staff personnel - both Gay and non-Gay. What is needed now is broader community involvement, especially from young people themselves."

Formerly a Catholic priest, Fry has been a local Gay activist since 1971. He was Director of the Catholic Gay Ministry; co-founder of Dignity, worked at the Gay Health Project at the City Clinic, and served on the Gay Health Board.

Dick Lewis, Director of Our House of Concern, Inc., is backing the project. Lewis organized the Gay Peoples Union at Stanford and Palo Alto's Gay Community of Concern. He obtained the first government money ever given to support Gay projects more than three years ago.

Oregon Gay Rights Bill Gains Momentum

According to the Portland Town Council newsletter, their State Senate Committee on Aging and Minority Affairs hearing on SB 603 was packed

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with supporters. Last week's meeting received testimony pro and con. Gay activists claimed the testimony went excellently for the civil rights side - "For us: organized, rational, impressive, professional - addressing the central issue of civil rights. For them: disordered, illogical, unreasonable - addressing the irrelevant issue of religion and child molestation."

The overflow crowd spilled into two other rooms where they watched the proceedings on TV sets.

SUPPORT FOR 603 GAINS

Oregon Governor Straub has given his resounding endorsement to the Gay rights bill and is answering public concerns about Gay school teachers. Two newspapers, "The Oregon" and the "Oregon Journal," now support the bill. The Secretary of State, the Attorney General and State Treasurer have spoken for SB 603.

In addition, support has come from the Oregon Education Ass'n, the Oregon ACLU, Civil Rights Committee of the State Bar, Pacific Northwest Lutheran Synod, United Church of Christ (Central Pacific Conference), and Senate of Priests (Diocese of Baker).

"All have directly endorsed SB 603," the newsletter claims; "and the list continues to grow."

The Senate Committee on Aging and Minority Affairs is now holding its work session on the proposed legislation. Their options are to send the bill to the Senate floor intact, send it amended, or table it indefinitely.

The Portland Town Council is urging the Committee to send the bill out intact - thereby allowing the full Senate body to vote on the complete Gay rights bill.

Letters and telegrams to the legislators are needed.

Note On CDC Convention

by Bruce Pettit

SAN JOSE - Jim Sandmire of Los Angeles, re-elected chair of the California Democratic Council Gay Caucus at CDC's 25th annual convention March 18-20, immediately presided over its reorganization.

Sensing "mixed signals" on the political condition of the U.S. Gay rights movement, Sandmire said, "The problem of success is that you often lose your militancy." He noted differences between urban and rural areas - and between California and the rest of the nation. Miami's June 7 referendum to repeal the Gay rights ordinance will measure "whether we can preserve the integrity of our own liberation movement."

David Goldman of San Francisco won CDC's support for a boycott of Florida Citrus Commis-

sion products. CDC, considered representative of the state's most liberal Democrats, agreed to the economic sanction "until such time as either (1) the commission ends Anita Bryant's role as spokesperson and representative of the commission or (2) Ms. Bryant ends her campaign to deny the civil rights of Gay people."

CDC's Gay Caucus then sought order for its own house. It agreed to more frequent state and regional meetings, a larger executive committee, and proportional financing from member clubs.

Seven Gay clubs affiliated with CDC for 1977: three from San Francisco, two from Los Angeles, and one each from San Jose and San Diego.

According to Sandmire, Clark Pollack of L.A.'s Stonewall club is aiding new-club organization. Within six months CDC Gay clubs are expected in San Luis Obispo, Long Beach, Santa Monica, Orange County and Pasadena-Glendale.

Donna Hughes-Oldenburg and Steve Badeau, both of San Francisco, were elected Caucus secretary and treasurer, respectively. Chris Perry of the S.F. Gay Democratic Club and Lyn Fitzpatrick of the Alice B. Toklas Club were chosen Northern co-chairs. Robert Lynn of San Diego was elected Southern co-chair, with a woman co-chair to be selected within three months.

Wally Albertson of Beverly Hills was re-elected CDC president by a convention second-ballot tally of 372-346. The Gay Caucus gave Albertson at least 50 votes - grounded in her past performance on its behalf - in her 26-margin victory. In her acceptance speech she gave special recognition,

"The Gay Caucus has been solidly behind me, not only this year but in the past."

Her opponent, John Bauer, had raised some doubts among some in the Gay Caucus when he appeared to waver on endorsing Gay rights principles for his Berkeley firefighters' union. Other Gay Caucus members supported him nevertheless, accepting his campaign thrust promising more CDC grass-roots participation.

Some San Francisco Gays joined San Francisco straights in forming the momentary, mythical but carousing Associated Cronies Democratic Club (AC-DC) - a "loose" alliance based on Supervisor Quentin Kopp's recent description of some of his political foes.

S.F. Gay Rap

San Francisco Gay Rap announces VD Awareness Night, Tuesday, April 5, at First Congregational Church at Post & Mason Sts. In the program, Dr. Erwin Braff, Director of the Bureau of Disease Control of the Public Health Department will speak about sexually transmitted diseases. He'll direct special em-

phasis toward hepatitis, a serious disease which has reached a highpoint in the Bay Area. This discussion will be the first of a series of seminars on communicable diseases to be held in coming weeks.

Also on April 5, medics from the Health Department - Ellen Barrett, newly orment will be testing dained Lesbian Episcopal

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priest, talks about her decision to involve herself in the Church and her experiences in becoming a minister.

Martin Stow will speak on "The Care and Feeding of Chickens - A Seminar for Hawks"

April 12

5th Supervisorial District Candidates Harvey Milk and Rick Stokes, both Gay activists with a long list of accomplishments in S.F. Gay politics, will talk about their reasons for running in the Castro-upper Market area.

Ira Rudolph, PhD, discusses Gay counseling with a focus on feelings and attitudes of the counselor in dealing with Gay people.

Jason Serinus - Postural Integration, deep connective tissue manipulation will be talked about with a demonstration of the process on one of the participants.

Charles Lee: "We Love a Parade." A talk about the Gay Freedom Day Parade in June.

Reservations are due by April 2. For further details phone (415) 836-0313.

Charles Pierce Opens at 'The City'

Charles Pierce, San Francisco's very own "male actress," returns in an exclusive engagement at THE CITY April 5 through 24 (three weeks, running Tuesday through Sunday each week).

Say the critics:

"There's nothing wrong with showbiz that talent won't cure. By talent I mean Charles Pierce who, outrageously gowned, filled Bimbo's wall-to-wall five nights running... Charles is an indoor camper, and the best!"

- Herb Caen, "Chronicle"

"A phenomenal occurrence! Pierce did all the favorites - Bette Davis, Mae West, Joan Crawford, Katherine Hepburn - and did them brilliantly. It was a virtuoso performance. The place, quite simply, freaked. Frank Sinatra should get such an audience response!"

- John Wasserman, "Chronicle"

"Classically camp, delightfully happy and funny... Utterly unbelievable... The Charles Pierce Show was rich, ripe and grand theatre!"

Phil Elwood, "Examiner"

Boise Policewomen Ousted

IDAHO

The Boise Police Dept. has dismissed four female officers. Two to three women were dismissed on charges of Lesbianism. A fourth female officer was let go after having been informed she had not successfully completed her probationary period.

One of the woman officers (Boise's first on the force) claimed that she had been the victim of vicious rumors. She stated that an investigation had focused on her personal life and violated her right to privacy.

Judith Baker (dispatcher) and Theresa Silva (dog warden) said that their termination letters stated that they were removed because they had violated the state statute of a "crime against nature."

Boise was rocked twenty years ago by one of the most widely publicized homosexual scandals in the nation's history. In 1955, 1472 citizens were interrogated and 16 were convicted. Five men were sentenced to life in prison for their "crimes against nature." The "witch hunt" became the subject of the best-seller "The Boys of Boise."

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M.C.C. Holy Week Services

Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco will begin Holy Week with Palm Sunday services at 1:00 and 7:15 PM on April 3. A mid-week worship service is scheduled for 7:30 PM on Wednesday, April 6 and Maundy Thursday services are scheduled for 7:30 PM on April 7. The Passion play "The Terrible Meek" will be presented during the Good Friday worship service at 7:30 PM on April 8. An Easter Sunday Sunrise Service will be conducted in Lafayette Park at 6:00 AM. The 1:00 and 7:15 PM Easter services will feature a choral presentation of the Easter Cantata "No Greater Love" by John W. Peterson.

All Holy Week services, except Easter Sunrise Service, will be held at the MCC, 23rd and Capp.

East Bay MCC Seminar on Jesus

Saturday, April 16, from 10 am to 4:30 pm. East Bay M.C.C. will be hosting a seminar on Jesus.

"We are from different religious backgrounds and from them stem our concepts of Jesus. We have invited people from many Christian denominations and from other religions to serve on a panel and to lead discussion groups. Open discussions will hopefully bring us a new understanding about ourselves and others and our concepts of Jesus."

A registration donation of \$4.50 will cover the cost of lunch, transportation for panelists, and educational materials.



"Spectrum" at "The City", March 31 - April 2.

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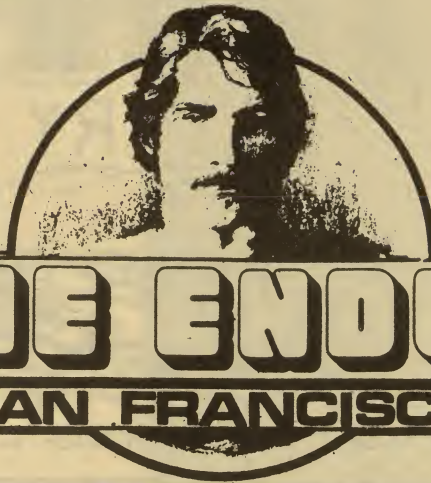
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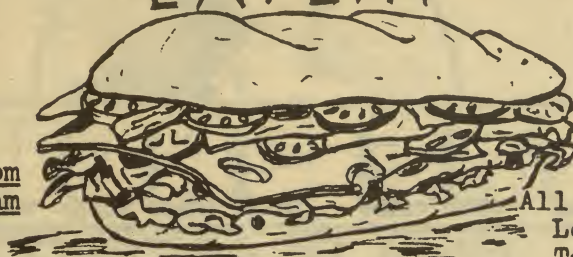
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